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GOBLIN SLAYER
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PARENTAL ADVISORY
WARNING
EXPLICIT CONTENT

GOBLIN SLAYER

Art: Kousuke Kurose
Original Story: Kumo Kagyu
Character Design:
Noboru Kannatuki

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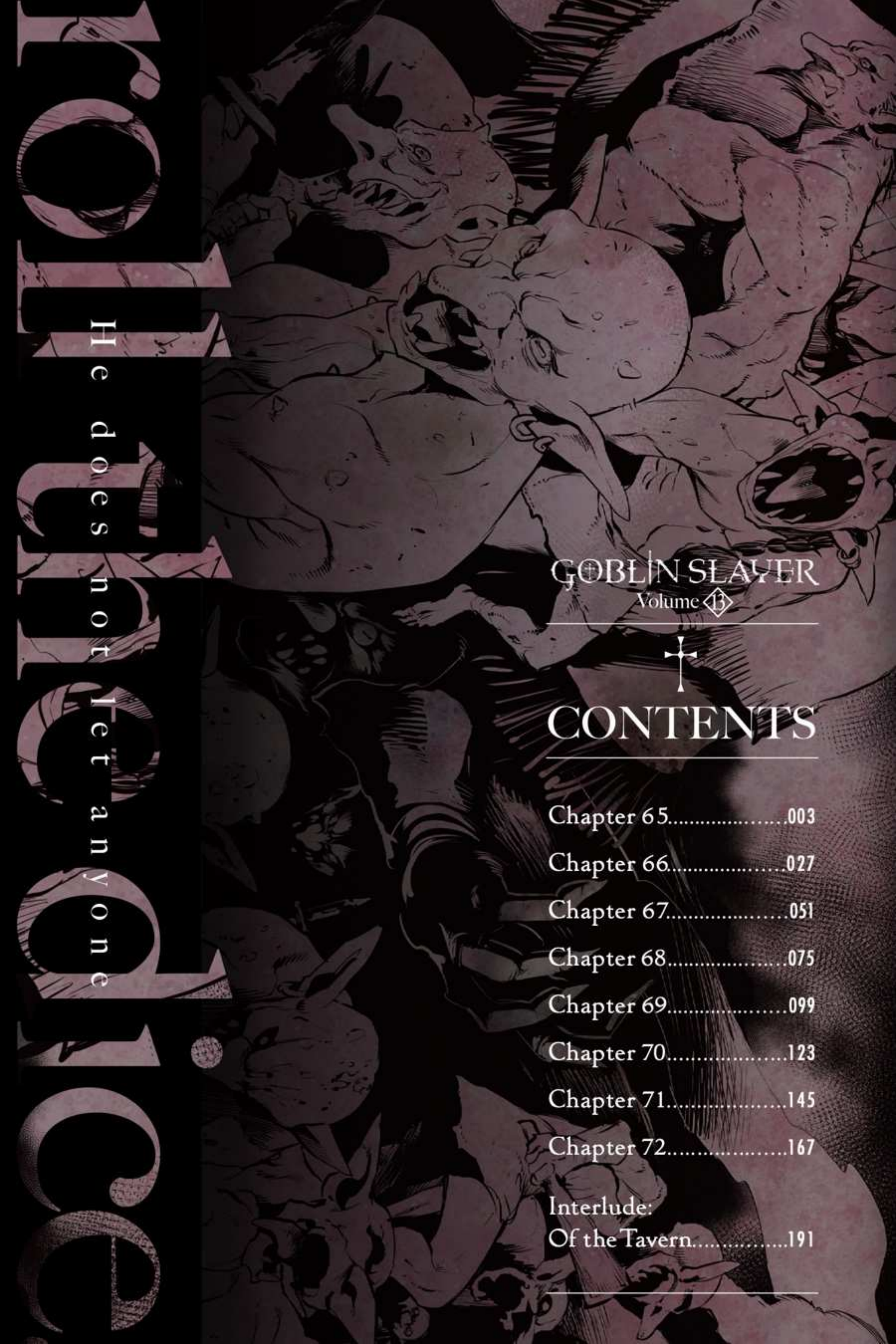

GOBLIN SLAYER
Volume 13

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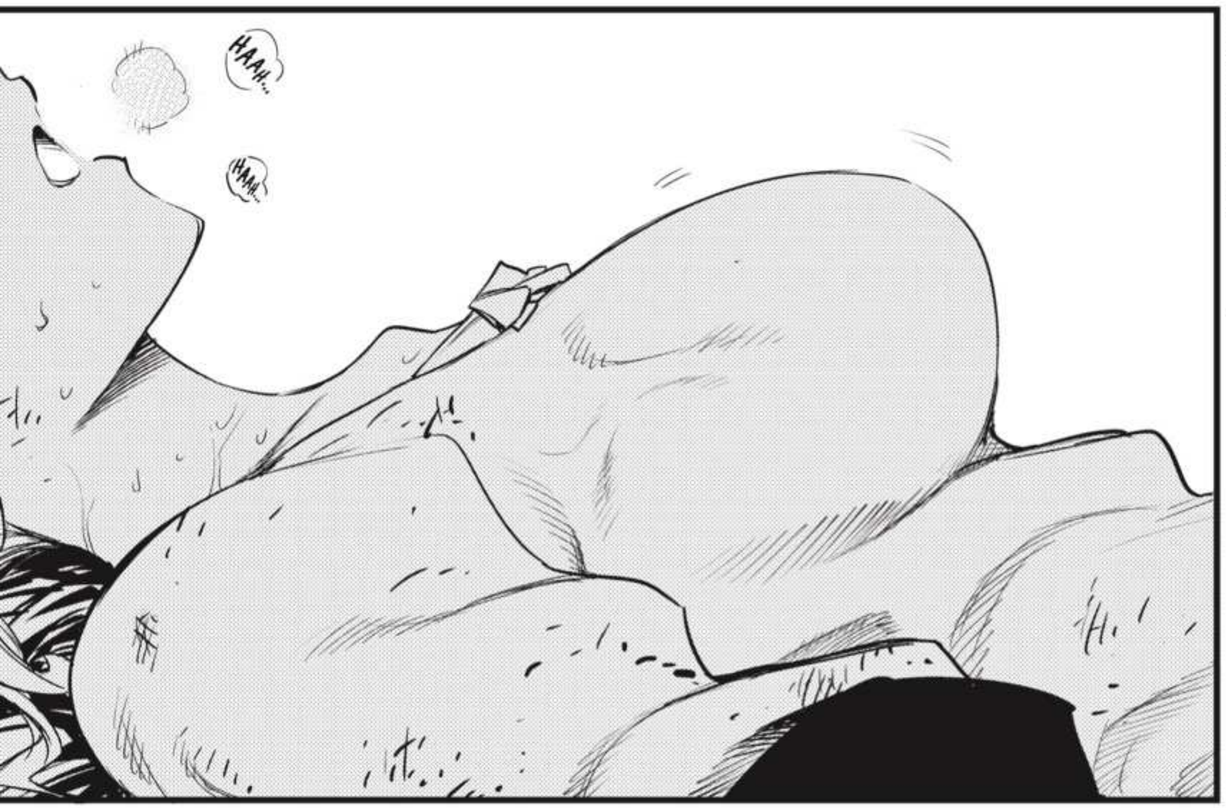
CHAPTER 65

BREATHING IS HOW I GET OXYGEN, SO WHEN I NEED MORE...
...MY BREATHING BECOMES RAGGED.
IF I'M... OUT OF BREATH...
...THAT MEANS... I'M NOT GETTING ENOUGH OXYGEN...

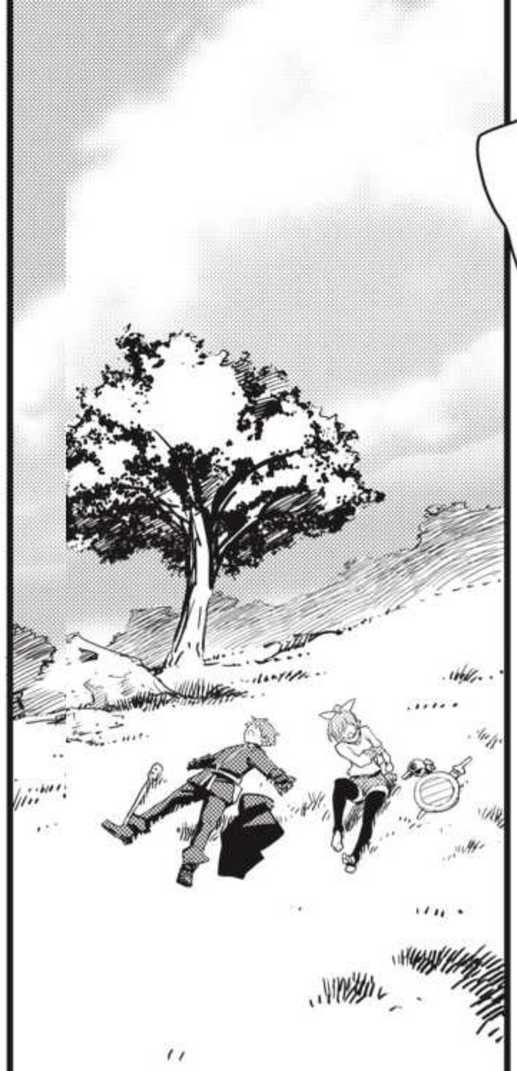
HAAH...
THAT'S ALL IT IS. IT'S NOT LIKE...
...I'M PATHETIC OR ANYTHING.
HAAH...

...REALLY DO... KNOW THAT... BUT...
ドッ
(TRIP)

SO I KNOW I HAVE TO... BUILD UP MY STAMINA...
I...
DOESN'T MATTER IF YOU'RE A WIZARD OR A WARRIOR.
BEING AN ADVENTURER MEANS A WHOLE LOT OF WALKING!


HAAH...
HAAH...

THINK YOU'VE GOT THE HANG OF IT?
...I DUNNO.
.....
UH...
SO...



...I'M SOOOO TIRED!
KURA (FLOP)

THE WORST PART IS THAT I KNOW SHE WAS STILL HOLDING BACK SO SHE WOULDN'T COMPLETELY OVERWHELM ME.

ALL SHE DID WAS SAY, "KEEP YOUR SHIELD UP!" OVER AND OVER...

YIKES ...

...WHILE SHE SMACKED ME AROUND, PUSHED ME OVER, AND BEAT ME BLACK AND BLUE...

RIGHT? "GOBLIN SLAYER," MY ASS!

YEAH, EVEN I WOULDN'T LOSE TO A GOBLIN ONE-ON-ONE.

IN THE FIRST PLACE, ANY ADVENTURER SHOULD BE ABLE TO KILL A GOBLIN IN ONE HIT!

THEY CALL HIM THAT BECAUSE HE KILLS GOBLINS, DON'T THEY?

I HEARD YOU DIDN'T DO SUCH A GREAT JOB OF KILLING GOBLINS YOURSELF.

AW, SHUT UP!

BUT I DON'T THINK THERE'S MUCH POINT IN SOMEONE WHO HASN'T DONE ANYTHING CRITICIZING A PERSON WHO'S ACTUALLY ACCOMPLISHED SOMETHING.

.....

LOOK, I'M NOT GOING TO PRETEND...

...THAT I DON'T HAVE MY DOUBTS ABOUT HIM SOMETIMES.

THAT'S 'COS...

...THEY'RE ABOUT ALL WE'RE STRONG ENOUGH TO HUNT.

BESIDES, I HEAR YOU DON'T DO ANYTHING BUT HUNT GIANT RATS!

THOSE RATS ARE POISONOUS, AREN'T THEY?

YEAH, WE END UP SPENDING A LOT ON ANTIDOTES AND POTIONS...

WE'RE FINALLY AT THE POINT WHERE WE CAN DEFEND OURSELVES AGAINST THEM AND FIGHT BACK.

THOUGH WE'RE STILL IN TROUBLE IF THREE OR MORE SHOW UP AT ONCE.

PLUS A HELMET OR AT LEAST A REINFORCED HEADBAND.

THEN MAYBE I COULD BUY A BROADSWORD... ALONG WITH SOME ARMOR AND MAIL.

NEXT TIME MY LEVEL GOES UP, I THINK I'LL ASK THE DEITY FOR THE CURE MIRACLE TO NEUTRALIZE POISONS.

TCH!

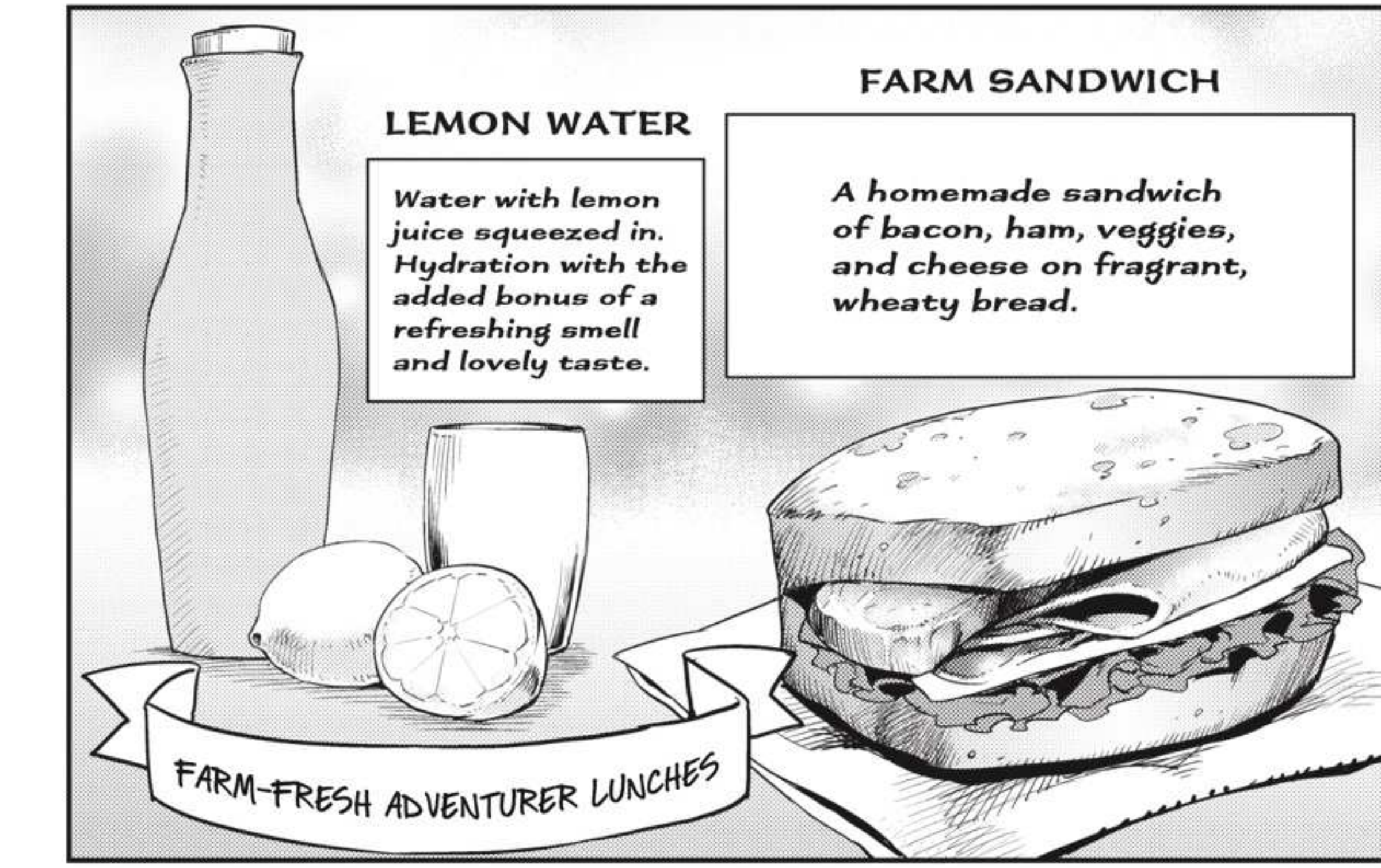
IT SURE WOULD SAVE US SOME MONEY...

ZUUUN (GLOOM)
HI, EVERYONE! HOW ABOUT SOME LEMON WATER?
I BROUGHT LUNCH AS WELL IF YOU WOULD...
...LIKE SOME...
I WAS TAUGHT THAT YOU HAVE TO EAT AFTER YOU MOVE...
WHAT, REALLY?
YUP.
...TO GAIN MUSCLE.
YORO (WOBBLE)
...I'LL HAVE SOME.
ER... I REALLY THINK YOU SHOULD EAT.
IF YOU DON'T, THE AFTERNOON WILL BE ROUGH...

I GUESS I'LL HAVE SOME TOO. THANK YOU!

FINE, COUNT ME IN.

CRAP, REALLY? I'D BETTER EAT TOO, THEN.



TRY TO EAT SLOWLY, AND REMEMBER TO TAKE A DRINK NOW AND THEN.

SO GOOD!

MRGH, HRFM!

WHAT THEY NEED...

SHE REALLY KNEW JUST WHAT THEY'D NEED AFTER THEIR WORKOUT, DIDN'T SHE?

SO, UM... HOW ARE YOU FEELING?

MY SISTER WAS INCREDIBLE! IF THOSE GOBLINS HADN'T USED POISON, SHE'D HAVE BEATEN THEM!

RIGHT.

MANAGING SOMEHOW, I THINK.

WHAT SHE SAID.

I'M SO TIIIIRED!

HMPH.

.....

BETTER TO DO SOMETHING NOW THAN TO STAND AROUND WORRYING. BY THE TIME YOU COME UP WITH A GOOD IDEA, IT WILL BE TOO LATE.

UHHH...

HE JUST BRUSHED ME OFF...

AH... IT DOES HAPPEN NOW AND THEN...

WAIT, REALLY?

HRMPH.

WELL, NOBLES WHO AREN'T THE HEIRS TO THEIR HOUSES REALLY GET THE SHORT END OF THE STICK.

OUR LEADER WAS THE SECOND OR THIRD SON OF SOME NOBLE HOUSE.

BUT HIS OLDER BROTHER WENT AND GOT HIMSELF KILLED, WHICH MADE HIM THE HEIR. SO HIS FAMILY CALLED HIM BACK AND THAT WAS THE END OF OUR PARTY.

WHO, ME?

YOU KNOW...

...I HAVEN'T SEEN THE OTHER MEMBERS OF YOUR PARTY AROUND...

OH YEAH! YOU DO RUN INTO PEOPLE LIKE THAT AT THE GUILD.

AND YOU HEAR ABOUT SECOND OR THIRD DAUGHTERS OF NOBLE HOUSES RUNNING AWAY FROM HOME ALL THE TIME.

SHARE OF LAND

ELDEST SON INHERITS

YOUNGER SIBLINGS

MARRIAGE

BECOME AN ADVENTURER

IF THEY ACCEPT THEIR LOT IN LIFE, THE BEST THEY CAN HOPE FOR IS A SHARE OF THEIR PARENTS' LAND OR MARRYING INTO ANOTHER FAMILY.

THEIR ONLY OTHER OPTION IS TO TRY TO MAKE THEIR OWN FORTUNES.

WHATCHA LOOKIN' AT ME FOR?

YEAH, SOUNDS A LOT BETTER THAN BEING DUMB, BROKE, AND DRESSED IN RAGS...

HAAH...

PERO (LICK)

BUT THANKS TO THEIR BACKGROUND, THEY TEND TO BE EDUCATED AND HAVE GOOD EQUIPMENT, ALONG WITH SOME LEVEL OF TRAINING WITH THE SWORD, SO MOST OF THEM ARE PRETTY SKILLED.

NOBLES HAVE PLENTY OF THEIR OWN PROBLEMS— OR SO I HEAR!

EH, I'M SURE IT'S NOT ALL SUNSHINE AND RAINBOWS FOR HIM FROM NOW ON.

WHICH IS ALL JUST TO SAY THAT OUR LEADER BASICALLY MANAGED TO KILL SOME TIME WITHOUT GETTING SERIOUSLY INJURED UNTIL THE POSITION OF HOUSE HEIR OPENED UP.

SURE WORKED OUT FOR HIM, HUH?

YEAH, I FEEL YOU!

I'M GONNA BE THE BIGGEST EVER!!

LIKE, YOU SAY YOU WANNA BE THE STRONGEST GUY AROUND, AND THEY JUST LAUGH AT YOU AND CALL YOU A BUMPKIN!

BODY SIZE BE DAMNED!

GET WHAT I MEAN !?

IT AIN'T RIGHT!

BUT ISN'T IT TOUGH TO WORK SOLO?

SURE IT IS, BUT I'VE GOT DREAMS OF MY OWN!

NUH-UH, THAT'S MY LINE!

I MEAN, LEAVING YOU ON YOUR OWN IS JUST ASKING FOR TROUBLE.

HUH!?

WHAT?

YOU SAYING I'M WRONG?

HEH HEH!

BUT I BET YOU'RE GLAD YOU DECIDED TO COME WITH ME TO TRAIN HERE, RIGHT?

OF COURSE THEY'D LAUGH. IF A BUMPKIN LIKE YOU BECOMES THE STRONGEST GUY AROUND, WHERE DOES THAT LEAVE ALL THE OTHER BUMPKINS?

YOU TWO GET ALONG SO WELL!

I ONCE KNEW THIS WIZARD, YOU SEE...
I...
THAT'S HOW DREAMS ARE.
...A DRAGON?
WHAT KIND OF A DREAM IS THAT? THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE.
SHE SAID SHE WANTED TO SLAY A DRAGON ONE DAY.

IF NOTHING ELSE, WE STILL HAVE THAT MOMENT.
THAT INSTANT WE FIRST ENTERED THE CAVE.
JUST BECAUSE OUR PARTY WAS SHATTERED IMMEDIATELY AFTERWARD...
THEY DON'T ALWAYS NEED TO COME TRUE.

...DOESN'T MEAN THE VALUE OF WHAT EVERYONE SAID JUST DISAPPEARS.

HEYA, ROOKIES! LOOKS LIKE EVERYONE'S WORKING HARD!

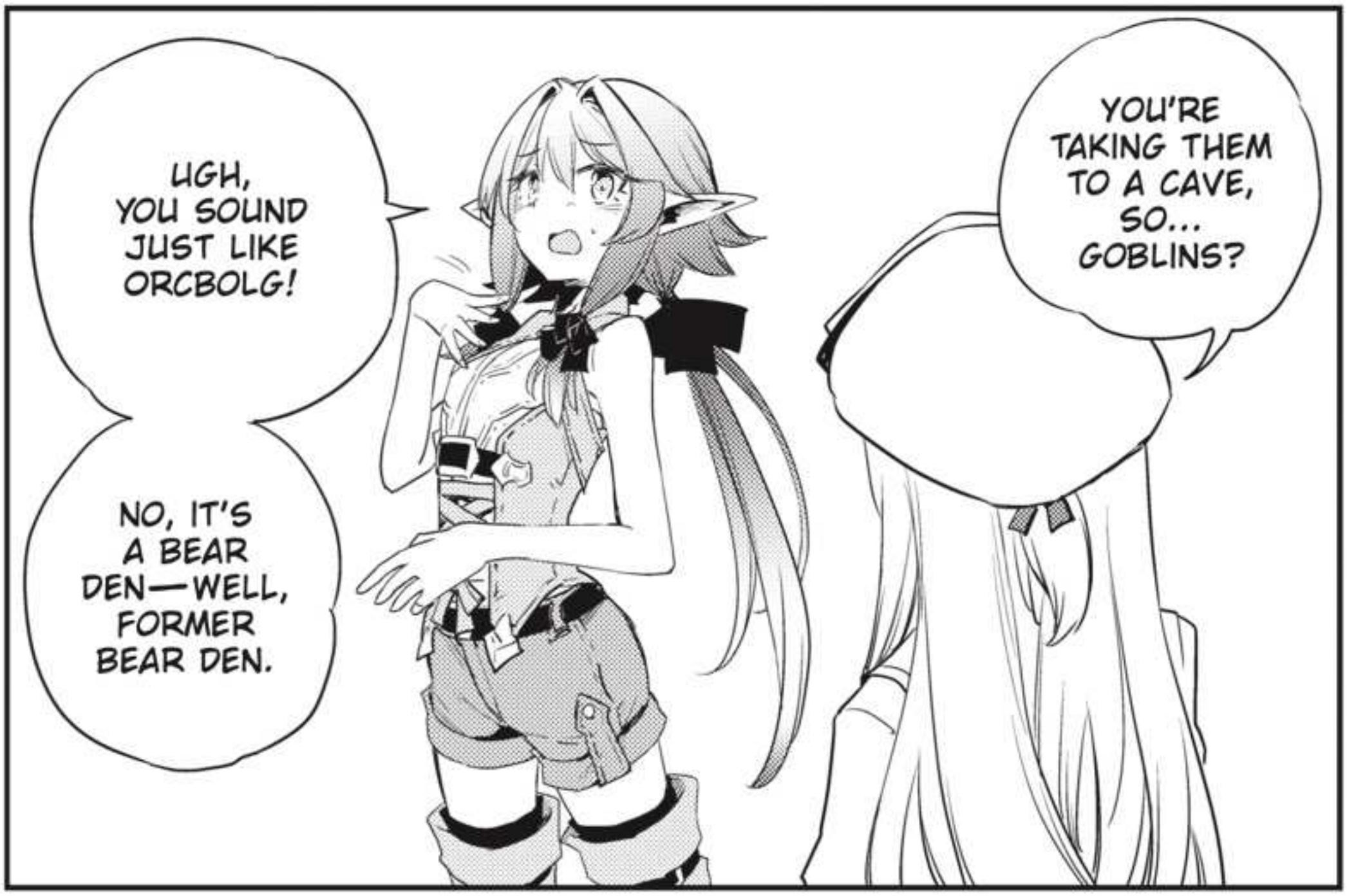
BA (LEAP)

TO (TMP)

"BIG SIS"? YOU WISH, LONG-EARS!

THIS AFTERNOON, YOUR BIG SIS WILL GO AHEAD AND SHOW YOU AROUND A CAVE!

A FIB IF I EVER HEARD ONE!
I'LL HAVE YOU KNOW THAT ELVES CONSIDER ANY TIME PRIOR TO NOON TO BE MORNING!
PRETTY SURE REAL RESPONSIBLE ADULTS DON'T SLEEP UNTIL NOON JUST BECAUSE THEY HAVE THE DAY OFF.


UGH, YOU SOUND JUST LIKE ORCBOLG!
NO, IT'S A BEAR DEN—WELL, FORMER BEAR DEN.
YOU'RE TAKING THEM TO A CAVE, SO... GOBLINS?

I THOUGHT THIS WOULD BE GOOD PRACTICE.
THERE'S SOME TRICKS WHEN IT COMES TO USING WEAPONS IN CAVERNS.

OH-HO! I MIGHT MENTION THAT WE HAVE YET TO PARTAKE IN A MEAL OF OUR OWN.

YES, THERE'S PLENTY LEFT.

COULD THE TWO OF YOU STOP EATING LIKE ANIMALS!?

MOKU

MOKU もぐ もぐ

ALL RIGHT...! BETTER EAT UP, THEN!

もぐ MOKU (CHOMP)

もぐ MOKU

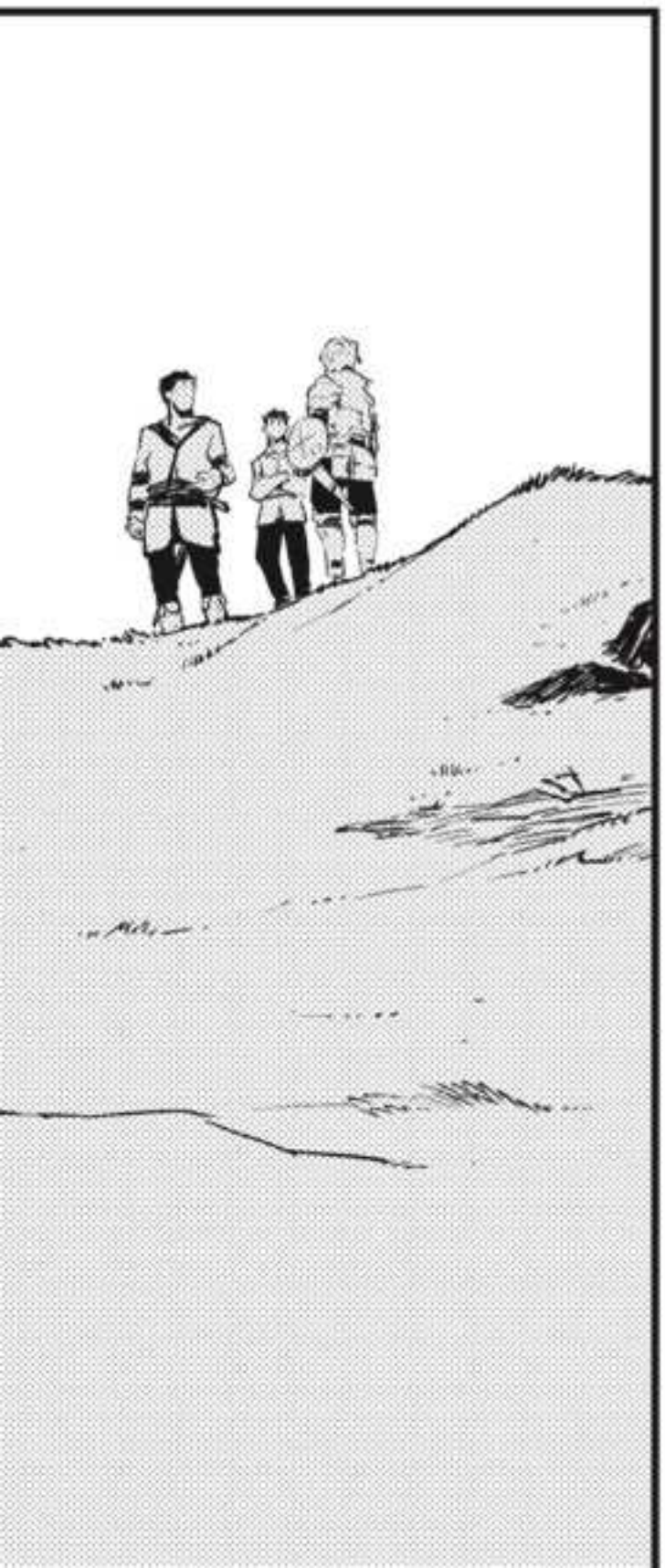
I ALSO HAVE ONES WITH ONLY CUCUMBERS AND CHEESE, AND THERE'S WINE AS WELL.

WOULDN'T MIND ONE OF THOSE MYSELF.

HOH-HOH-HOH! WELL, AREN'T YOU THOUGHT-FUL?

SWEET NECTAR !!

AHHH, AND REPLETE WITH CHEESE AT THAT...



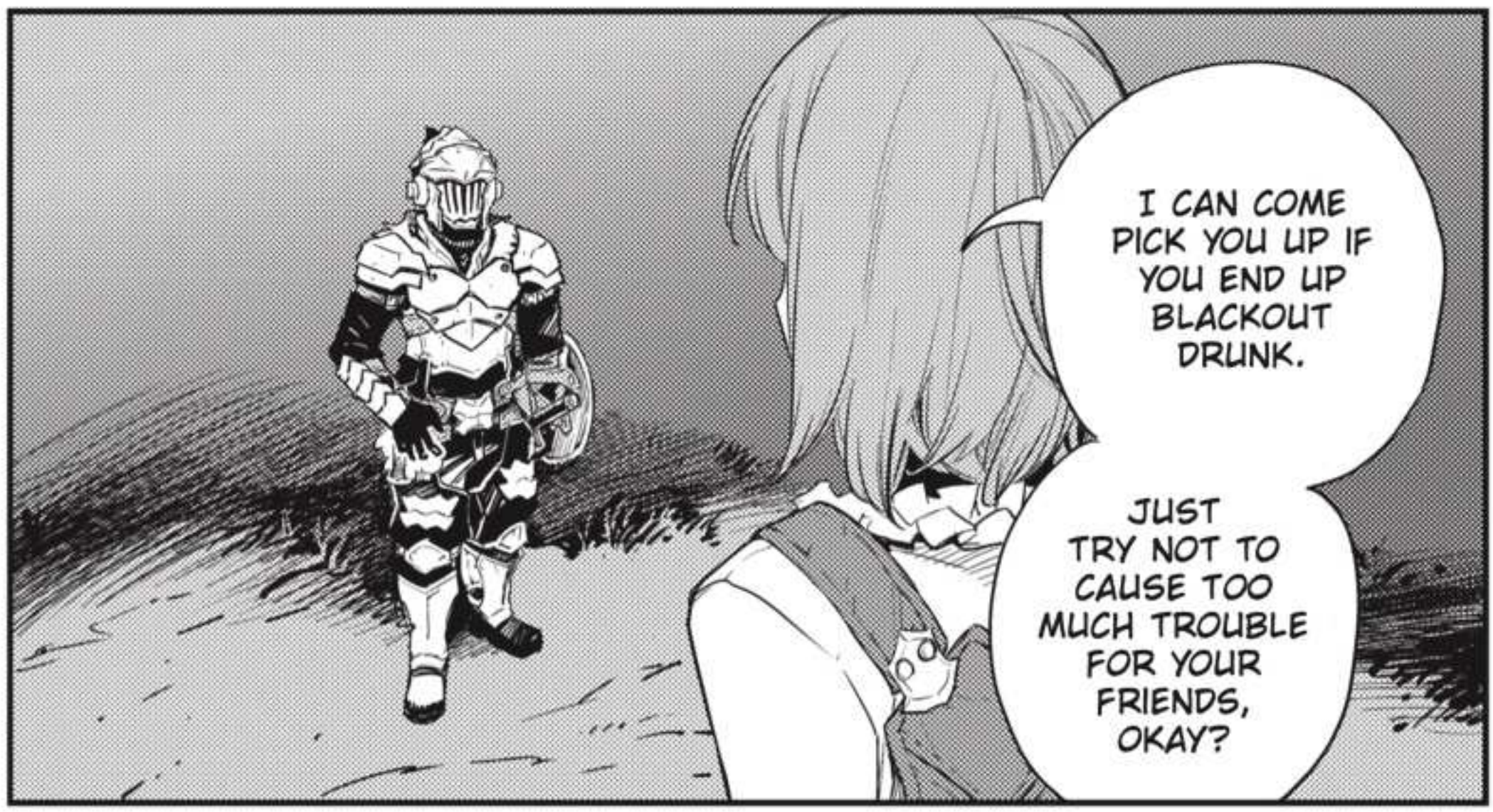
HMM.
.....
...HEE HEE!

I'LL BE GOING, THEN.

I'LL BE BACK LATE TONIGHT. I WON'T NEED DINNER.

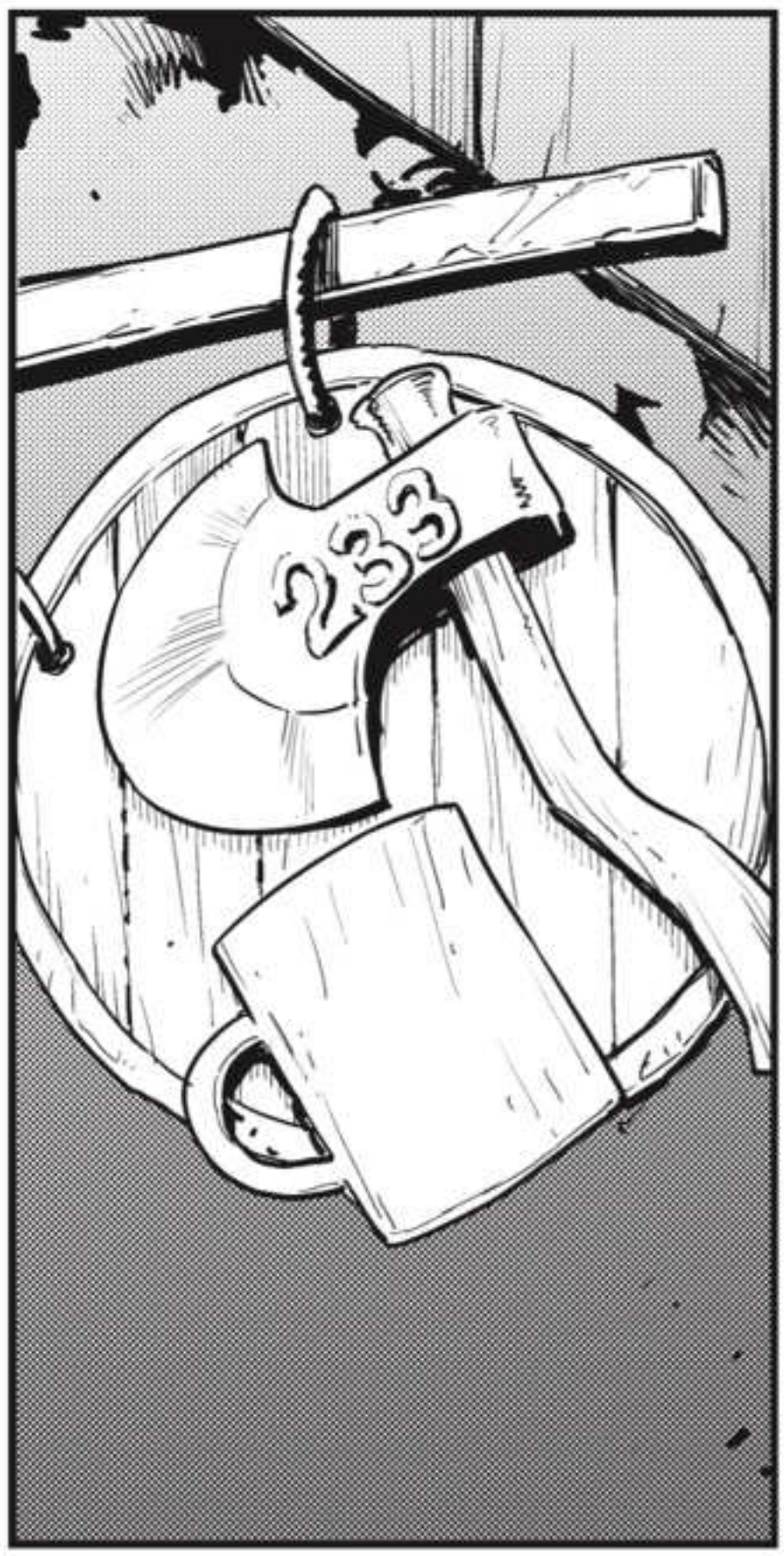
NOT AN ISSUE.
OKAY, GOOD!

HRM...
THAT'S THE MOST IMPORTANT THING.
ANYWAY, HOW ABOUT YOU? SURE YOU'VE GOT EVERYTHING YOU NEED?
YOU HAVE YOUR WALLET, RIGHT?


I CAN COME PICK YOU UP IF YOU END UP BLACKOUT DRUNK.
JUST TRY NOT TO CAUSE TOO MUCH TROUBLE FOR YOUR FRIENDS, OKAY?

OKAY.
I DON'T INTEND TO.

"FRIENDS" ...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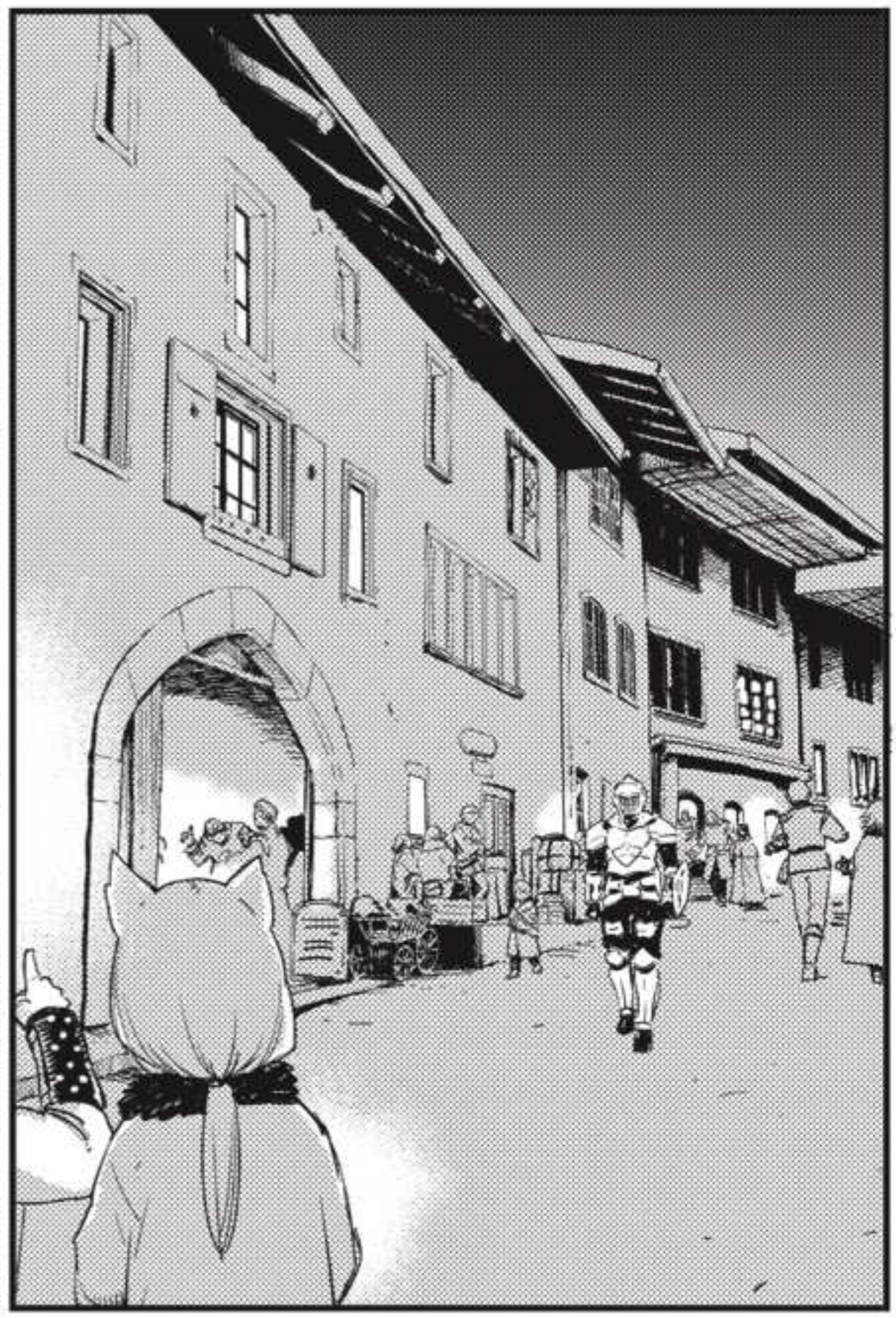
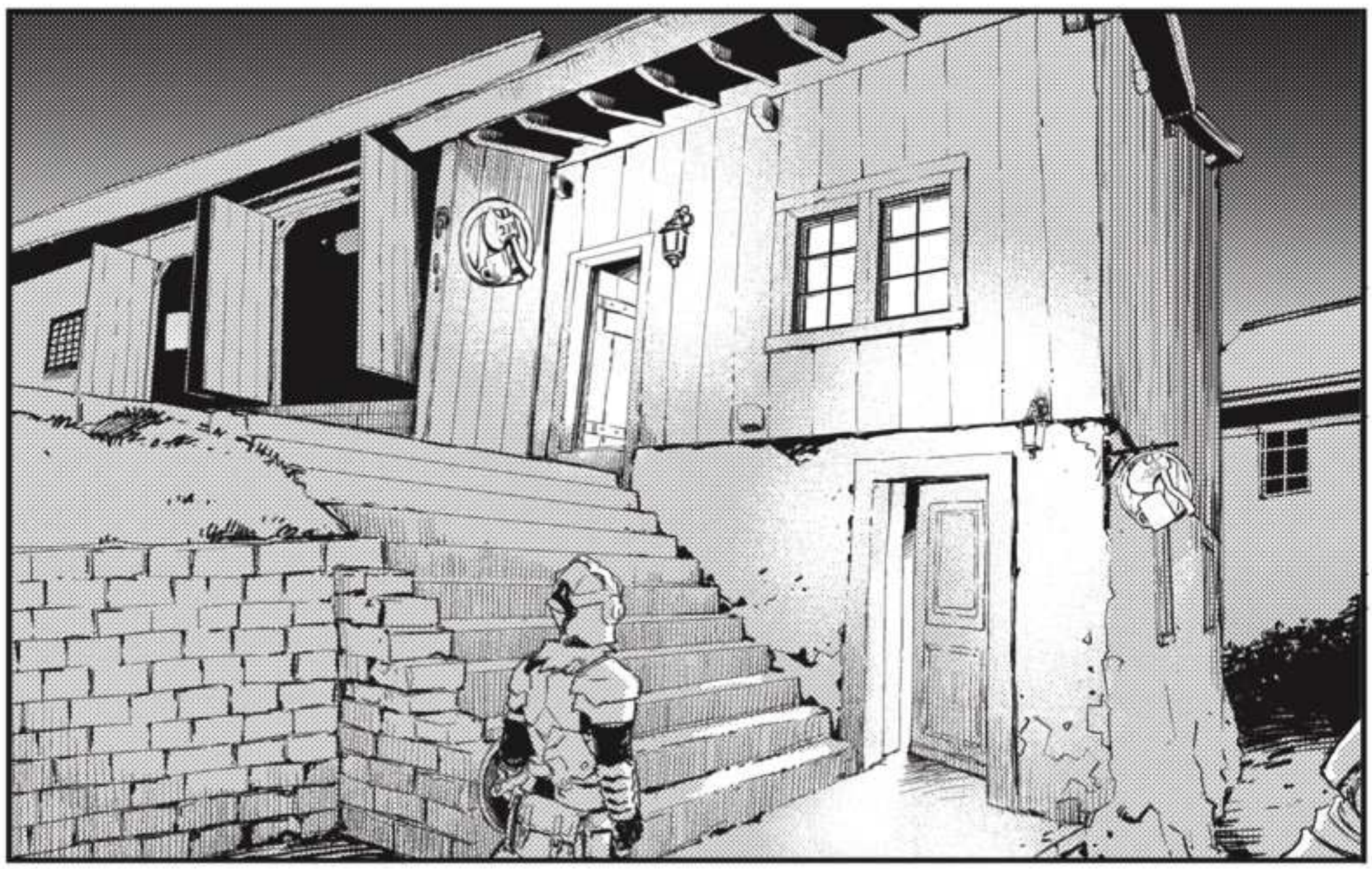
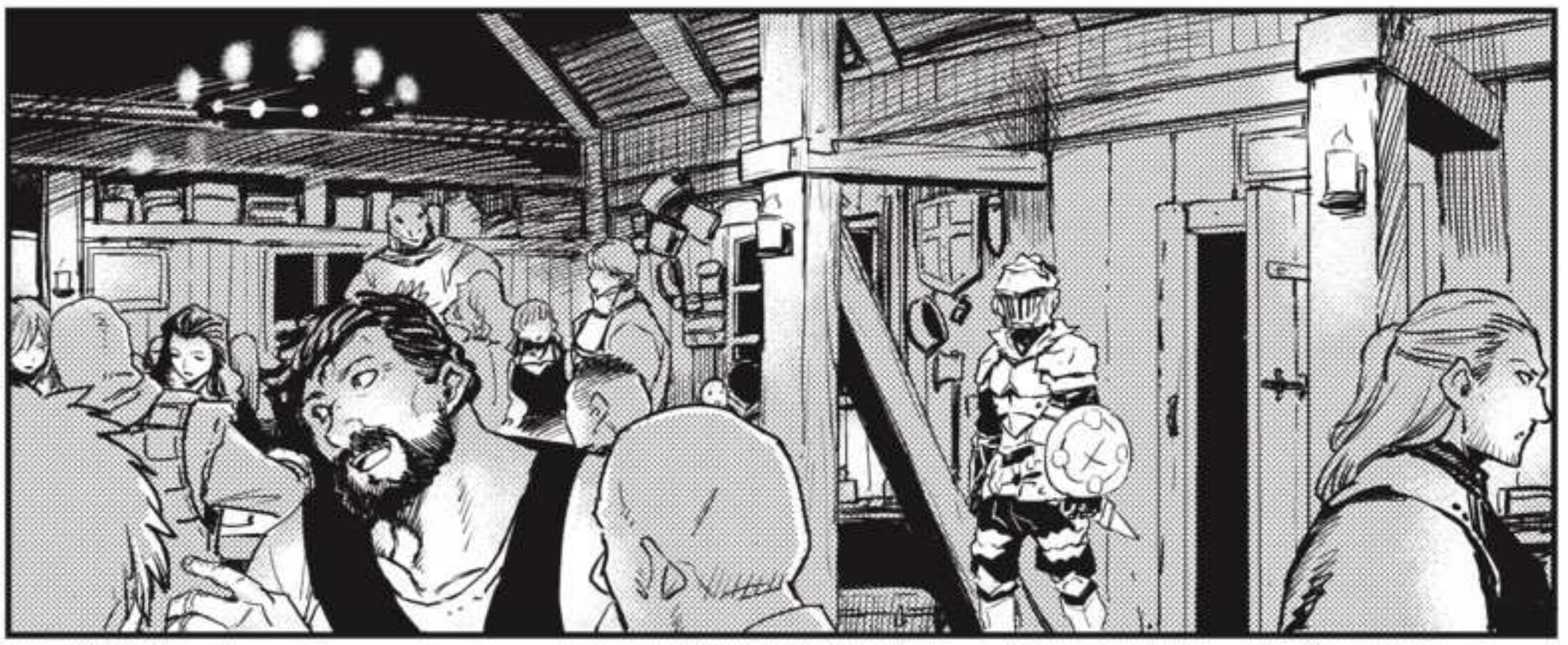






OVER HERE, GOBLIN SLAYER!
HEY, YOU MADE IT!

HEY! OVER HERE!

YOU'RE LATE, MAN! WE HAD TO GET STARTED WITHOUT YA!

SORRY.

CHAPTER 66

AIN'T IT OBVIOUS?

I DON'T WANT PEOPLE STARTING RUMORS ABOUT HOW I WAS PARTYING IT UP WITH SOME GUY WHO WOULDN'T EVEN TAKE OFF HIS ARMOR!

BUT WHY DIDN'T WE GO TO THE GUILD TAVERN?

HURRY UP AND ORDER SOME-THING, WILL YA!?

PARTICULARLY A CERTAIN RECEPTIONIST.

PIPE DOWN!

SHUT YER MOUTH!

THAT'S ONLY HIS EXCUSE.

HE'S REALLY JUST TOO INSECURE TO LET ANY OF THE USUAL CROWD SEE HIM SHARING A DRINK WITH YOU.

HEY!!

IS THAT SO?

HEY, MISS! THREE ALES, PLEASE!

IF YOU HAVE TO THINK ABOUT IT FOR MORE THAN TWO SECONDS, JUST ORDER AN ALE.

.....HRM.....

YES, SIR!

HERE'S YOUR THREE ALES.

PAKA (CLOP)

THANK YOU FOR WAITING!

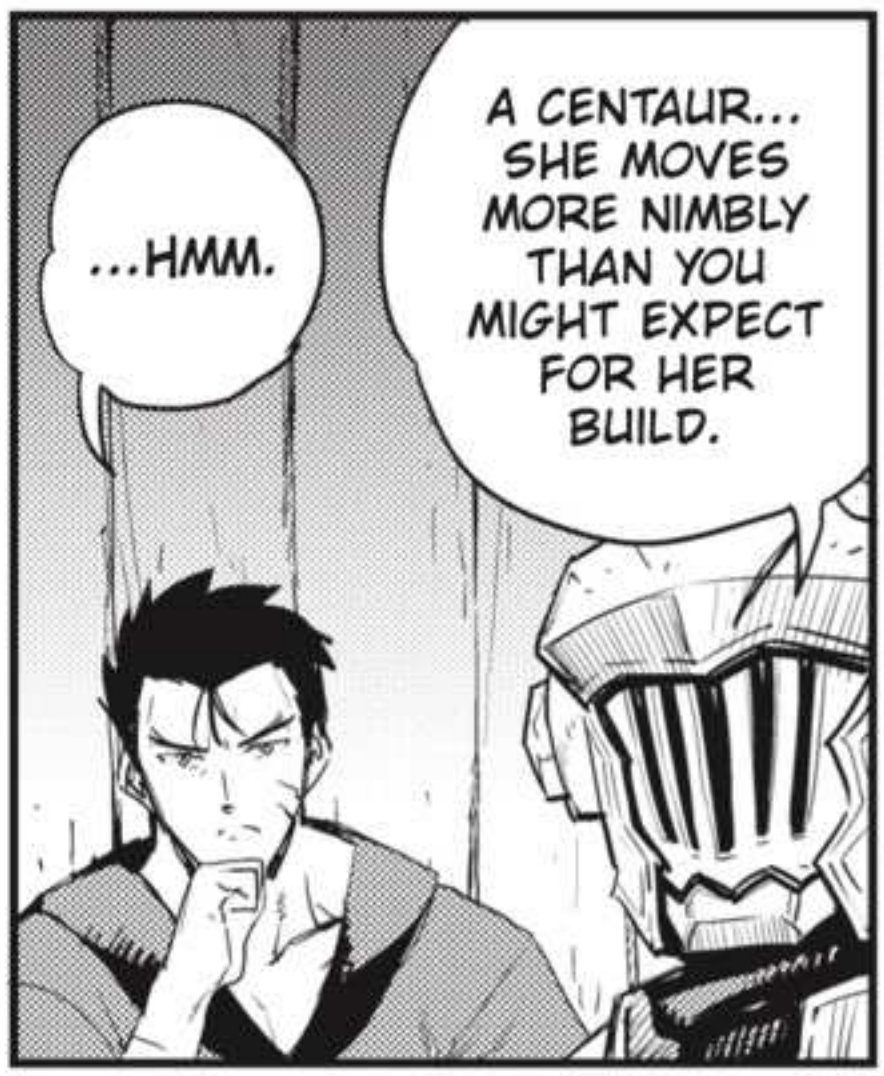
WAY TO TAKE CHARGE THERE.

WHADDAYA MEAN BY THAT?

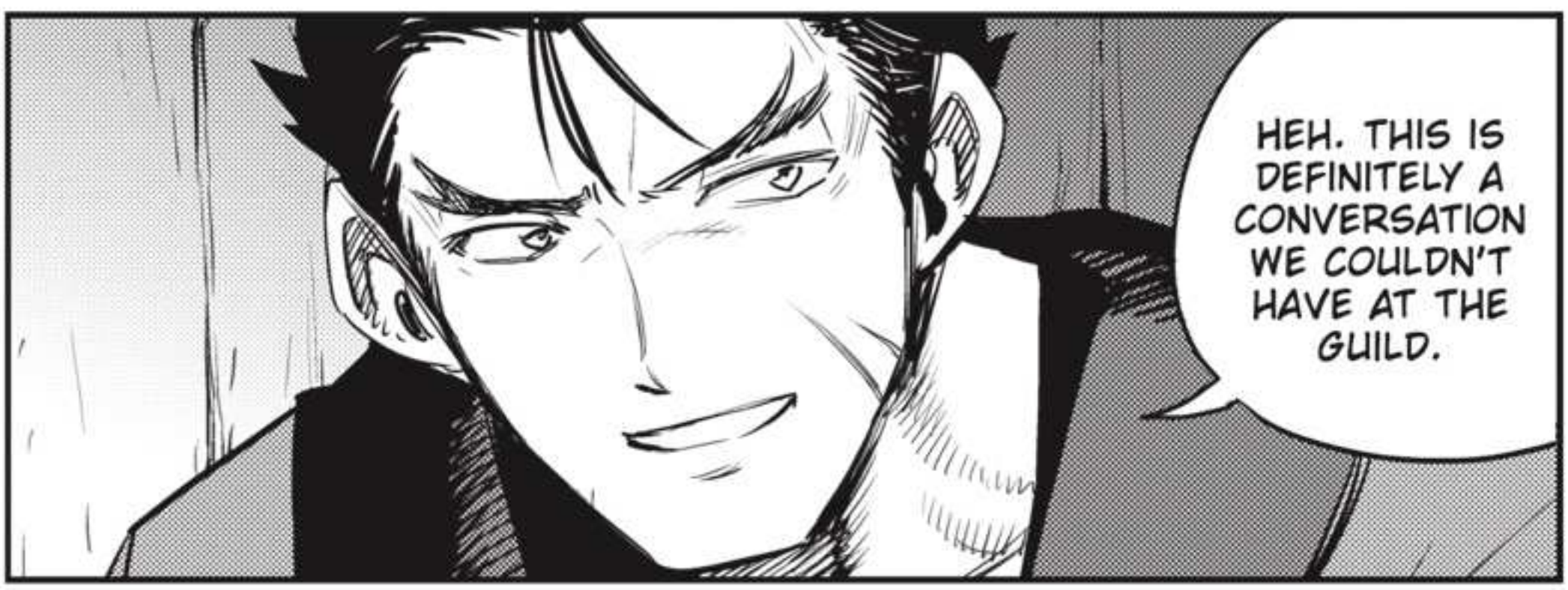
WELL, NOW. WE DON'T SEE ANY OF YOU AROUND HERE TOO OFTEN.

I SHOULDA KNOWN WE'D STAND OUT NO MATTER WHERE WE WENT IF WE BROUGHT THIS GUY ALONG...

JUST THINK, THREE FAMOUS ADVENTURERS ALL AT ONE TABLE!



IT'S 'COS SHE RIDES A HORSE, RIGHT?
HUH! THINK I'M STARTING TO GET WHY YOU'RE SO INTO THAT KNIGHT...
I THINK YOU'RE MISSING THE POINT...


HEH. THIS IS DEFINITELY A CONVERSATION WE COULDN'T HAVE AT THE GUILD.

WELL... UH...
SO. HOW ABOUT A TOAST?
TOO MUCH TROUBLE. JUST GO WITH THE USUAL.
TO WHAT?

TO ADVEN-
TURERS.

TO THE
GODS'
DICE!

TO OUR
TOWN!

CHEERS!

THERE WON'T BE A MOMENT WHEN THIS SHIMMERING JEWEL WITH FOUR BRIGHT LIGHTS DOESN'T SHINE.

LET THE EARTH TURN SOUR AND THE WIND GROW ILL...

...AND THE WORLD FALL DARK FOR ALL TIME.

THOSE FOUR BRIGHT LIGHTS IN THAT GEM NEVER END, NOR GUTTER OR BURN DOWN LOW.

AND OUR MEMORIES OF THIS JOURNEY WITH FRIENDS...

...SO TOO WILL NOT LOSE THEIR GLOW.

SO?

YIKES, HE'S LONG GONE.

YOU KNOW WHAT! I'M TALKIN' ABOUT THE RECEPTIONIST!

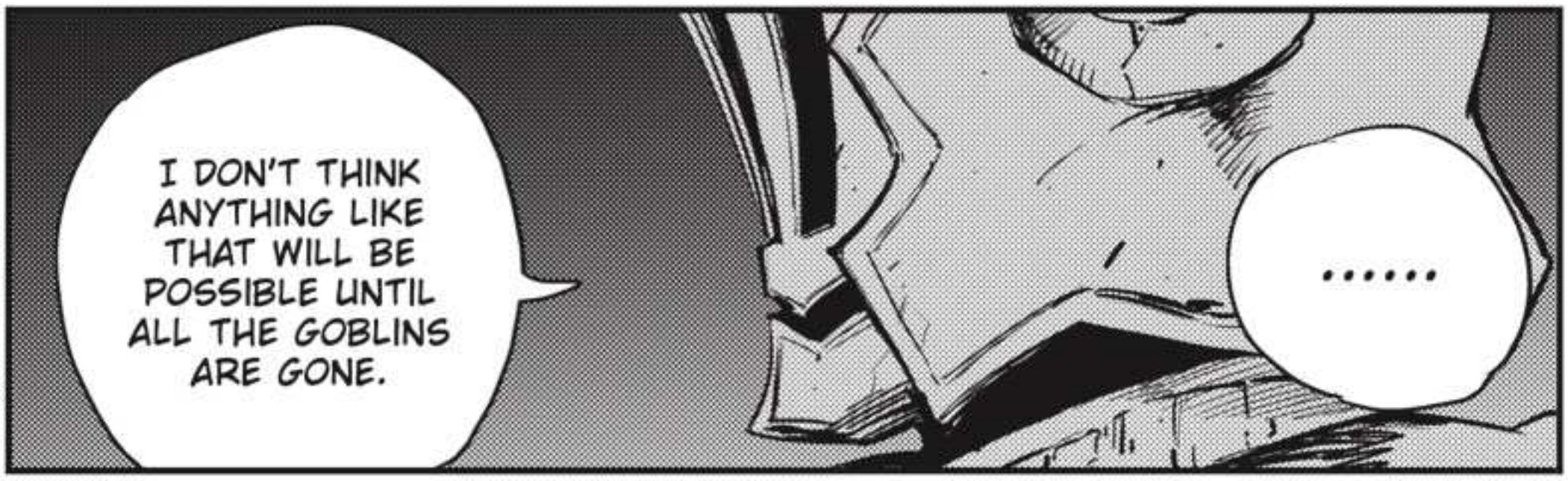
ABOUT WHAT?

WHAT ARE YOU GONNA DO?

SHOULD I HAVE BROUGHT THAT WITCH WITH US...?

NAH... HELL, FOR ALL I KNOW, SHE'S SPYING ON US RIGHT NOW.

PLUS, YOU'VE GOT THAT ELF, AND THAT FARM GIRL, AND THAT PRIESTESS! YOU'RE CRAWLING WITH LADIES!


I DON'T THINK ANYTHING LIKE THAT WILL BE POSSIBLE UNTIL ALL THE GOBLINS ARE GONE.
.....

THERE IT IS.
A GOBLIN?
NO, JACKASS.

I...

HEY, IT AIN'T LIKE I DON'T GET THE FEELING.

KING OF HIS OWN DOMAIN, Y'KNOW?
IT'S LIKE, A MAN WANTS TO BE FREE, I GUESS.
YEAH. IT'S LIKE...
OH YEAH?

...ABOUT THE MERCENARY WHO BECAME A KING.
SOUNDS GOOD TO ME. LIKE THAT OLD STORY...

A KING, HUH?

TOO BAD I AIN'T GOT ANY SMARTS.
YEAH, WELL.

PROBLEM IS, I HAVEN'T GOT THE TIME.

THEN YOU SHOULD STUDY.
YOU HAVE THE MONEY. AND POSSIBLY ENOUGH INTELLIGENCE.

CAN'T START STUDYING AFTER YOU BECOME KING. AIN'T NOTHING WORSE FOR THE PEOPLE THAN A RULER WITH NO BRAINS, RIGHT?

BUT IF I START STUDYING NOW...

...I WON'T BE ABLE TO GO ON ADVENTURES, AND THAT'LL PUT THE REST OF MY PARTY THROUGH HELL.

TRUE.

YEAH.

YOU'RE DAMN RIGHT IT IS.

GW!?

GESHI (KICK)

GIVE IT A REST!

NOT THAT THINGS ARE ALL THAT BORING THE WAY THEY ARE NOW.

PLUS, YOU'VE GOT YOUR LADY KNIGHT, HUH?

DIFFICULT BUT NOT BAD.

.....

FEH! WELL, WOULDN'T IT BE NICE TO HAVE IT MADE AND GET TO TAKE IT EASY LIKE YOU TWO!?

...AND YEAH. I GUESS HAVING HER AROUND AIN'T SO BAD EITHER.

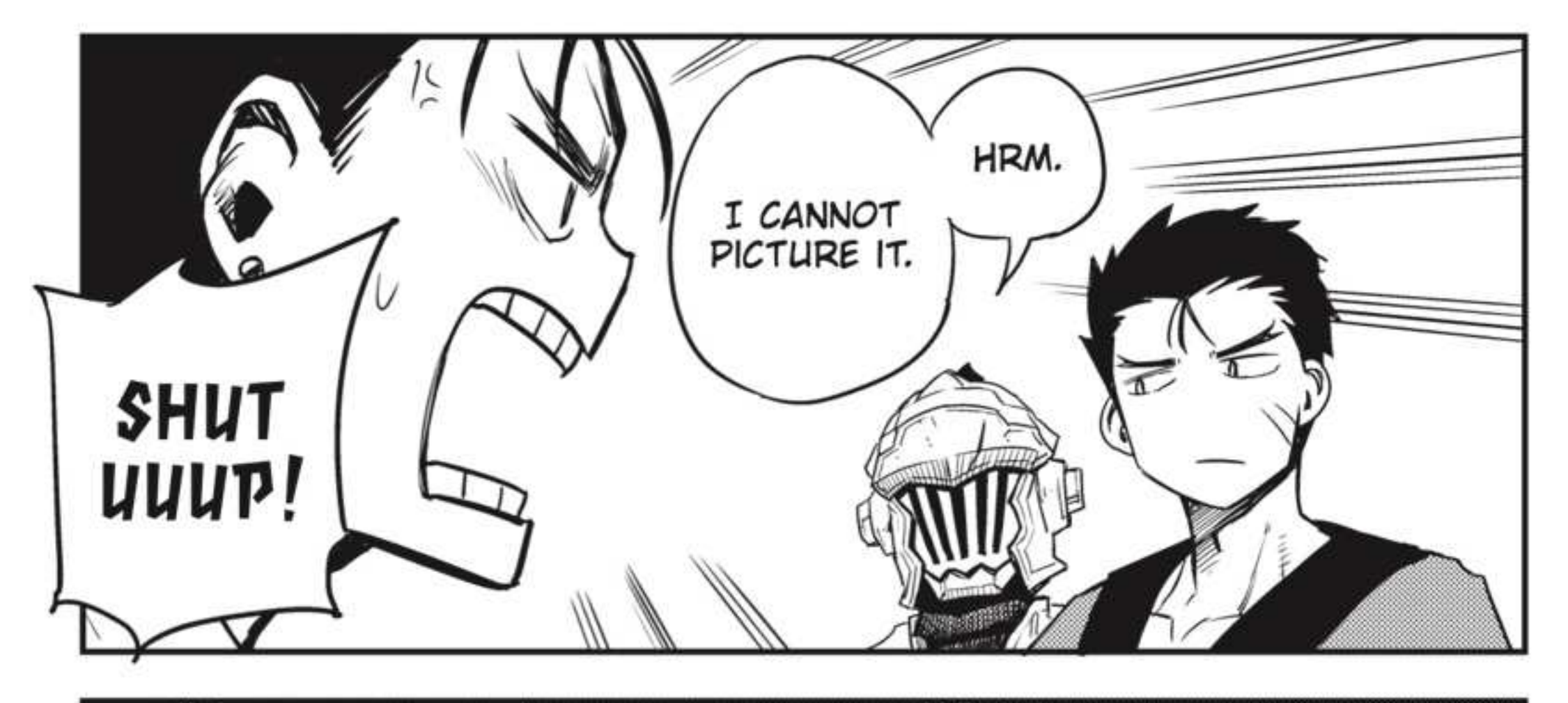
WOMEN WILL LOVE ME, PEOPLE WILL THANK ME...

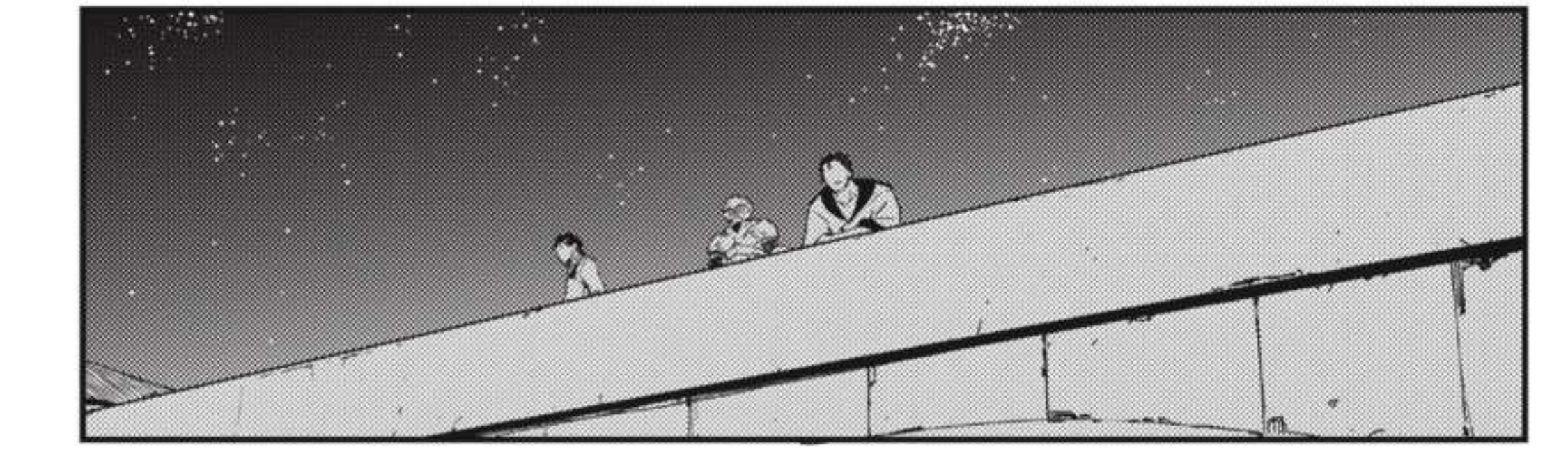
...AND I'LL BE ABLE TO DO THIS WORLD SOME GOOD.

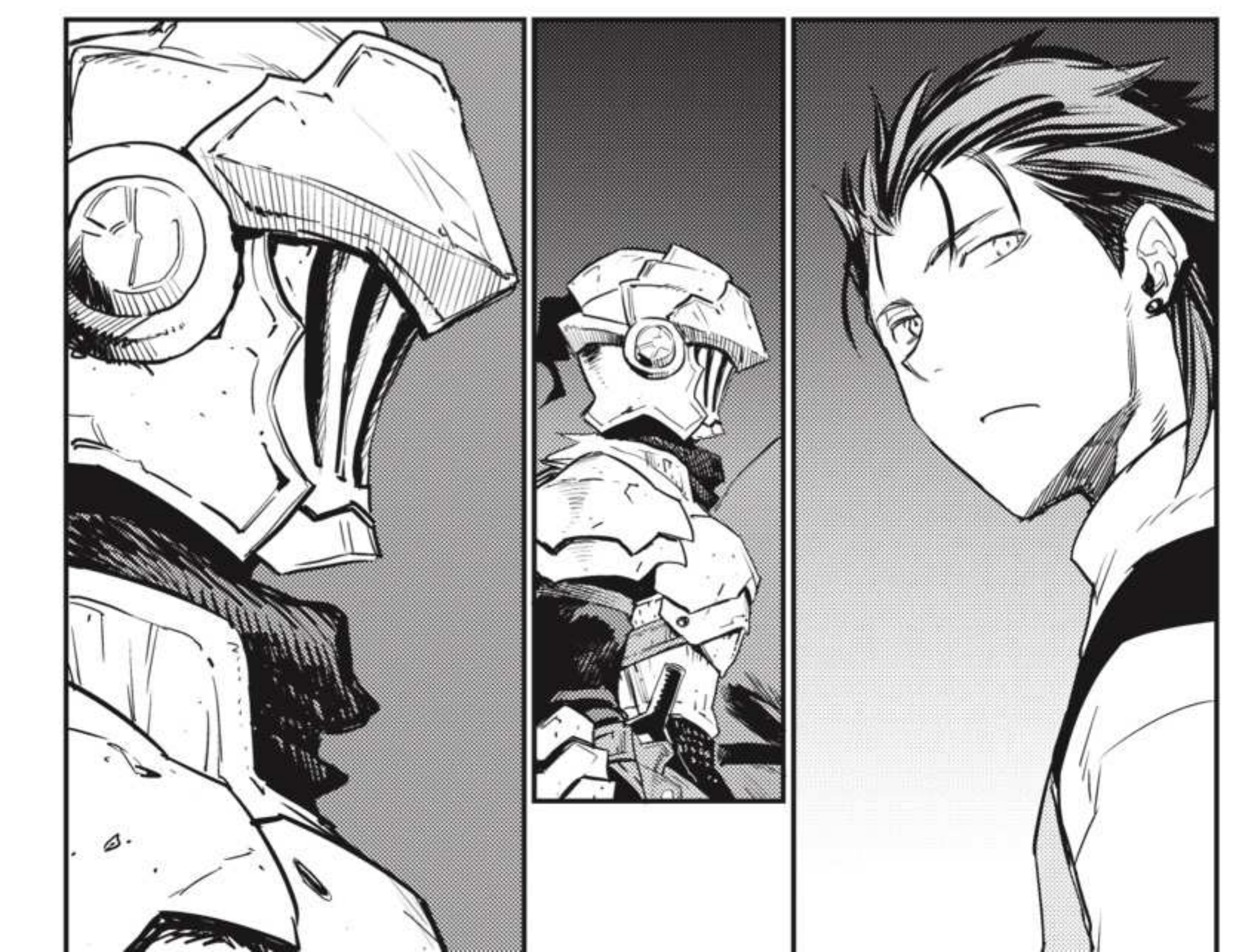
NOTHING WRONG WITH THAT, RIGHT?

YOU HEARD ME— THE STRON-GEST!

BECAUSE I BELIEVE THAT WHEN I'M THE STRONGEST, I'LL BE ABLE TO DO ANYTHING.


SHUT UUUP!
I CANNOT PICTURE IT.
HRM.





I BET THE RECEPTIONIST WOULD KNOW.

EVEN IF I HAD A HELMET ON LIKE HIM...

...I THINK SHE'D STILL BE ABLE TO TELL THE EXPRESSION ON MY FACE.

ME?

AND WHAT ABOUT YOU, GOBLIN SLAYER? WHAT DID YOU DREAM OF DOIN' WHEN YOU WERE A KID?

SEE ANYONE ELSE AROUND HERE WHO KILLS ENOUGH GOBLINS TO GO BY THAT NAME?

HMM...
HEY, SIS...
WHERE DOES THE RIVER COME FROM? AND WHERE'S IT GO?

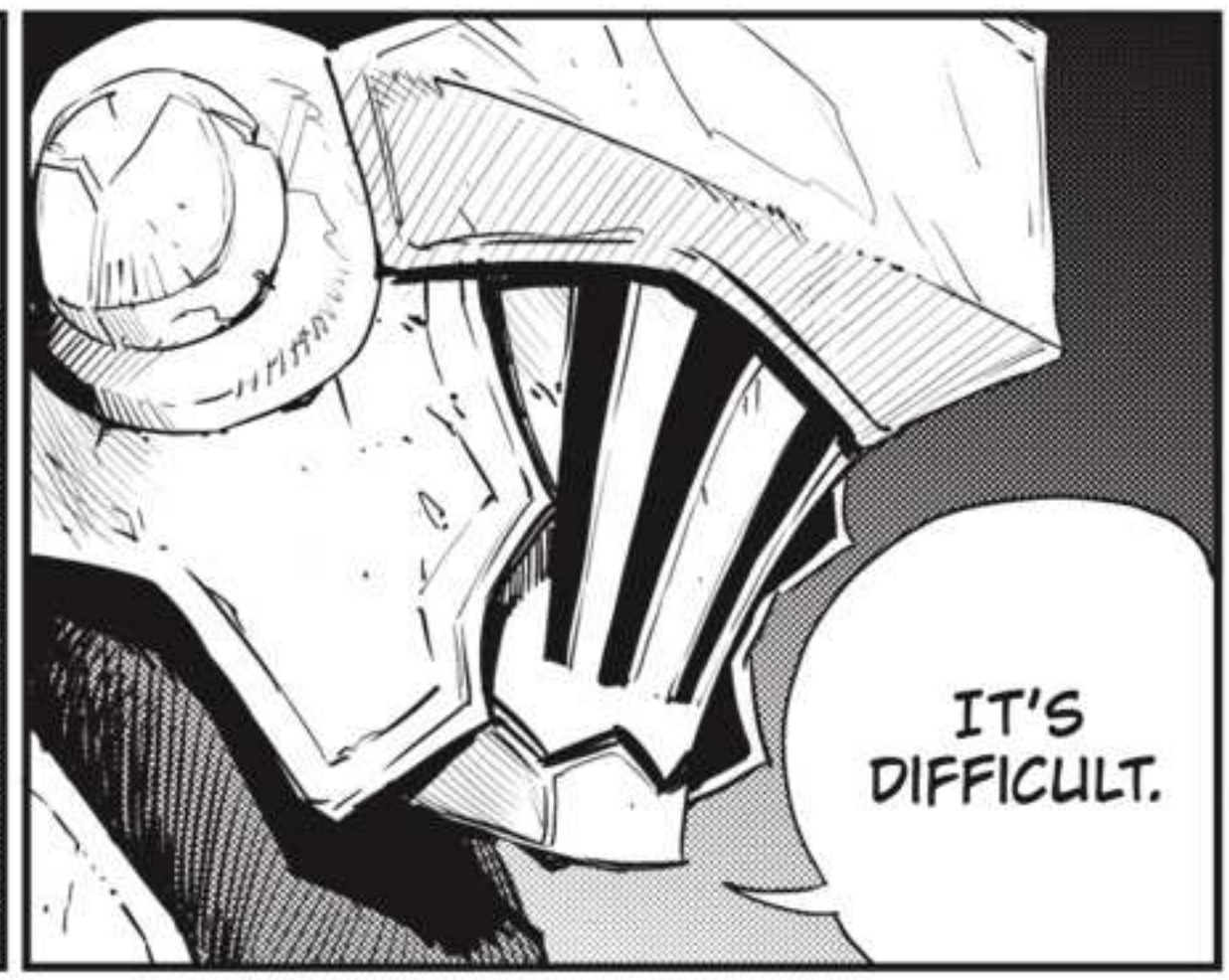
ONE DAY, I'LL FOLLOW IT AND SEE FOR MYSELF!
I...

IT COMES FROM THE MOUNTAINS...
...AND GOES TO THE SEA.

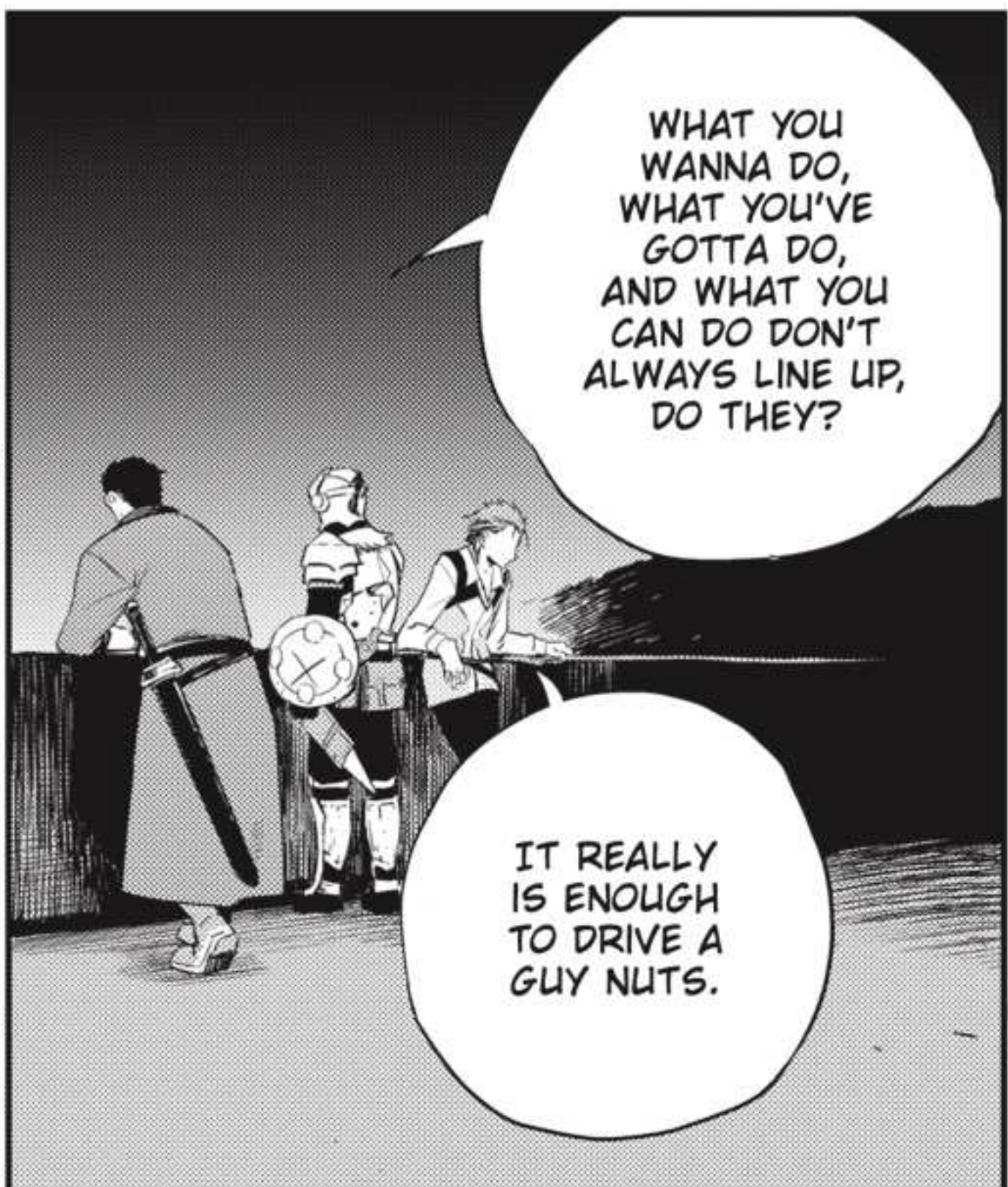
...WANTED TO BE AN ADVENTURER.

DON (JAB)
WELL, WON'TCHA LOOK AT THAT!
GUESS YOU'VE CHECKED YOUR LIFELONG DREAM OFF THE LIST.

IS IT, NOW?
YES.


IT'S DIFFICULT.

NO...


WHAT YOU WANNA DO, WHAT YOU'VE GOTTA DO, AND WHAT YOU CAN DO DON'T ALWAYS LINE UP, DO THEY?
IT REALLY IS ENOUGH TO DRIVE A GUY NUTS.

IT IS NOT SO EASILY DONE.
THAT RIGHT?

BUT BY NOW, WE ALL KNOW...

...THAT SUCH GRAND STORIES...

...ARE NOT THE ONES WE WILL BE STARRING IN.

WE ALL WANTED...

...TO BE RENOWNED WARRIORS.

GREAT HEROES.

KINGS.

SHAPERS OF HISTORY...

...AND LEGEND.

...AT THE VERY LEAST, I WANT TO LET HER DO WHAT SHE WANTS TO DO.
SO YOU KNOW...

YES. WILL YOU DO IT?

...WHO, ME?

HOKU (STEAM) ホカ

HOKU ホカ

DON'T MIND ONE BIT M'SELF, BUT...

CHAPTER 67

MM.

DRINK, THEN?

HAVE A TIPPLE. HUMOR ME.

トゥク TOUKU

トゥク TOUKU (GLUG)

I'M ABOUT TO GO ON A GOBLIN HUNT.

MM. NOT HAVIN' ANY?

MO モ

モ MO (MUNCH)

POTA-TOES?

IN THAT CASE, I SUSPECT YOU'D BE BETTER OFF ASKIN' SOMEONE ELSE.

I DOUBT THAT.

AREN'T THE KINDS OF MAGIC WE PRACTICE RATHER DIFFERENT, THOUGH?

SO Y' WANT ME TO TEACH THAT WHIPPER-SNAPPER OF A WIZARD SOME MAGIC...?

I DON'T KNOW MUCH ABOUT MAGIC...

...BUT I WOULD SUSPECT AS MUCH.

.....

YOU'RE THE MOST CAPABLE SPELL CASTER I KNOW.

WELL, CAN'T ARGUE WITH THAT NOW...

...CAN I?

ALL RIGHT, SORRY. GUESS THAT WAS IN POOR TASTE, EVEN AS A JOKE.

I MEANT WHAT I SAID.

YOU SHOULD'VE USED THAT LINE TO SWEET-TALK THAT SMOKIN' WITCH INSTEAD OF WASTING IT ON ME, THOUGH.

WHAT EXACTLY BROUGHT THIS ON?

JUST TELL ME ONE THING, BEARD-CUTTER.

KARAN (CLATTER)

WHAT?

GATSU (CHOMP)

ガっ

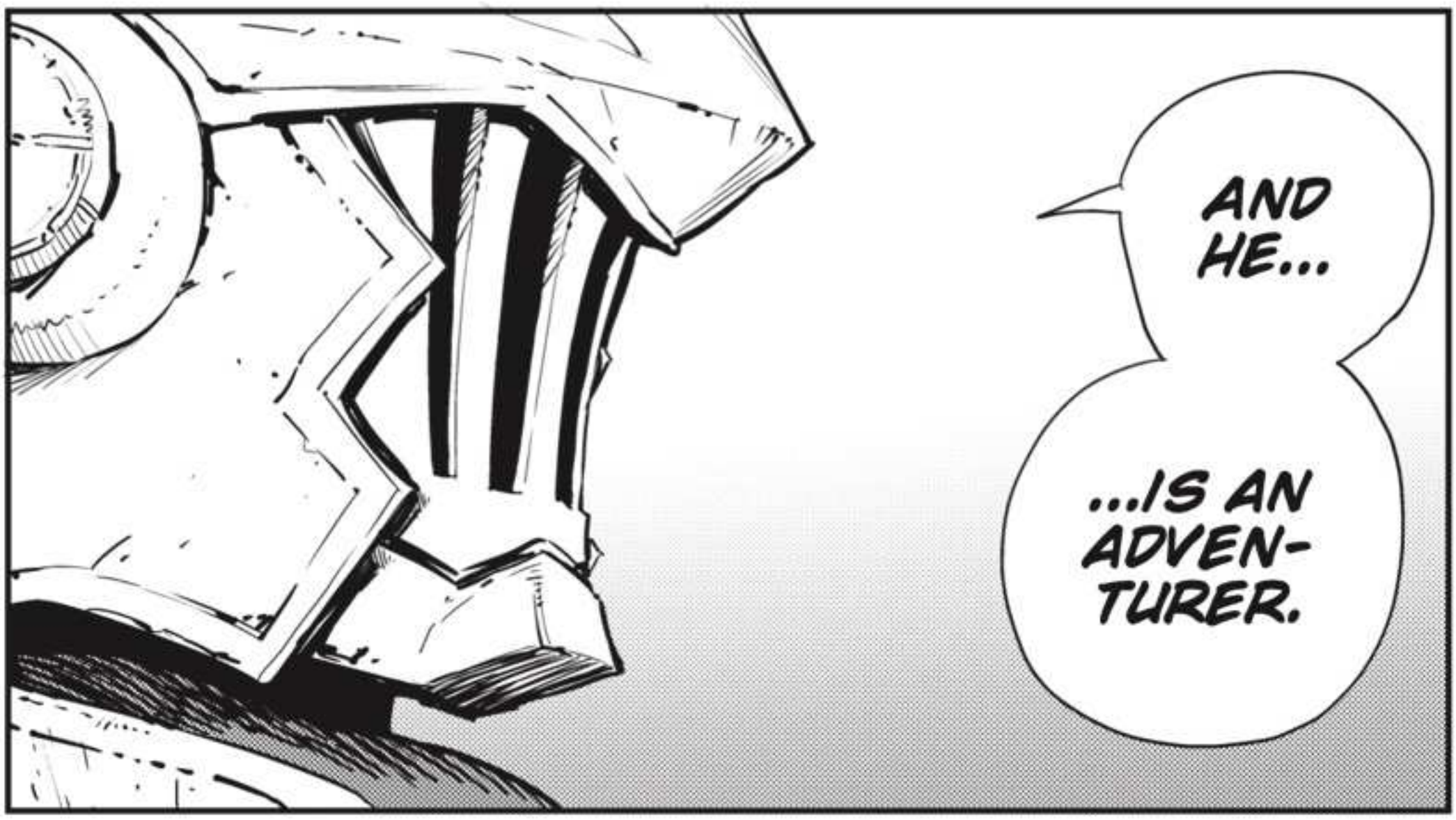
ガっ

GATSU

IF YOU'RE NOT UP TO IT, FEEL FREE TO TURN ME DOWN.

DON'T BE A FOOL! A DWARF NEVER TURNS DOWN A JOB UNLESS HE DOESN'T LIKE THE CUSTOMER.

I AM GOBLIN SLAYER.


AND HE...
...IS AN ADVEN-TURER.

DAMN RIGHT.
THINK I GET WHAT YOU'RE SAYIN'.
THOUGH I'M SURE LONG-EARS WOULD THROW A FIT IF YOU TRIED TO EXPLAIN IT TO HER THAT WAY.
I SEE.
IS THAT SO?

WHO CAN SAY? WE COULD BET ON IT IF YOU LIKE.
...DO YOU THINK HE WILL?
ANYWAY, I'LL TAKE THE JOB. MAYBE IT COULD WAIT A LITTLE WHILE, THOUGH?
THAT'S FINE. I TOLD HIM TO COME IN THE AFTERNOON.
BON (SLAP)
YOU KNOW WHAT THEY SAY—
ALL THINGS IN MODERATION, AMIRIGHT?
IN ANY CASE, I THINK I COULD STAND TO HAVE JUST A FEW MORE CUPS BEFORE WE GO.
BIT OF A WALK, AFTER ALL.

...WHAT, NOT HUNTING GOBLINS TODAY?

HOW CAN ANYONE STAND TO BE IN A PARTY WITH THIS GUY WITHOUT GOING NUTS?

I DON'T REMEMBER ANYONE ASKING YOU TO LOOK AFTER ME.
IS THAT SO?
UH-HUH!
SORRY.

ONCE I'VE HANDED YOU OFF, I WILL BE.

A SILVER-RANKED SPELL CASTER...

AH, SO HE DID SHOW UP! EXCELLENT.

THAT MUCH IS A GOOD SIGN, AT LEAST.

ALL RIGHT. LISTEN CLOSELY TO WHAT HE SAYS, DON'T GIVE HIM ANY TROUBLE, AND TREAT THIS SERIOUSLY.

BUT IT'S NOT LIKE I WANT HIM TO TEACH ME OR ANYTHING JUST BECAUSE OF THAT...

GEH!

OH NO YEH DON'T! YOU'RE WITH ME TODAY, LAD!

GUN (WHAP)

...!

H-HEY!

HOW MANY SPELLS HAVE YEH GOT, AND HOW MANY TIMES CAN YEH CAST 'EM?

RIGHT, THEN. I'M NO EXPERT, BUT...

UH-HUH, SURE...

C'MON NOW, HAVE A SEAT.

THERE'S SOME THINGS BEST LEARNED STANDIN', AND OTHERS BEST LEARNED SITTIN'.

CHANGES HOW YOU USE YOUR HEAD, SEE.

WAY TO RUB IT IN...

JUST FIREBALL.

...AND I CAN ONLY USE IT ONCE.

.....

YOU'RE DEAD WRONG 'BOUT THAT, JUST SO YEH KNOW.

.....!

GOCHIN (CRUNCH)

YOU SOME KINDA IDIOT?

AREN'T DWARVES USUALLY WARRIORS ANYWAY?

WE'VE PLENTY OF MONKS TOO.

GOT MORE THAN ENOUGH WITS AND SPIRIT FOR IT, AFTER ALL.

WASN'T WORRIED ABOUT THAT. NO WIZARD NEEDS A HEAD AS HARD AS YOURS!

THOUGH YOU MIGHT BE BETTER OFF IF I SPLIT IT OPEN AND LET IN SOME AIR.

THAT FREAKIN' HURT...!

I'M NOT GONNA BE CASTING ANY SPELLS IF YOU BREAK MY DAMN HEAD OPEN!

LISTEN UP. FIREBALL ISN'T THE ONLY SPELL YOU HAVE.

HUH?

YOU READ TOO MANY STORIES, KID.

I G-GUESS I HAVE HEARD OF THE DWARVEN SAGES...

IACTA— "SHOOT" OR "RELEASE."

CARBUN-CULUS— "FIERY STONE."

CRESCUNT— "ARISE" OR "BECOME."

SEE?

I MEAN, YEAH...
.....
"FIREBALL" IS JUST WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU PUT ALL THREE OF THEM TOGETHER. GET WHAT I'M SAYIN'?
OH!
THAT'S ONLY COMMON SENSE.
BUT EACH WORD STILL CONTAINS POWER ON ITS OWN.
THREE WORDS OF TRUE POWER PUT TOGETHER CAN FORM A SINGLE SPELL.
GOOD. LOOKS LIKE THAT SKULL'S STARTING TO CRACK.
BUT...
...IF SOMEONE POINTS OUT SOMETHING SO OBVIOUS YOU NEVER EVEN NOTICED IT...
...TO DISMISS IT OUT OF HAND.
...YOU'D HAVE TO BE AN IDIOT...

THROW.

...CREATE FIRE.

EXPAND.

IN THAT CASE, WHY DON'CHA TRY TO "SPELL" OUT WHAT THAT MEANS TO ME?

WELL, JUST LOOK AT THAT? NOW YOU'VE GOT FOUR CHOICES.

AND FIREBALL.

JUST FIREBALL. ...AND I CAN ONLY USE IT ONCE. WAY TO RUB IT IN...

FOUR!

WHEN I THOUGHT ALL I COULD DO WAS FLING FIREBALLS AROUND.

BA (FWAH)
MIGHT BE A CRAP HAND, BUT YOU'VE STILL GOT CARDS TO PLAY, EH?
BA
BA

YOU'RE CALLIN' A PARADIGM SHIFT...WELL, MAYBE IT AIN'T ANYTHING THAT GRAND.
BUT NOW YOU KNOW THE CARDS IN YOUR HAND.

IS IT REALLY THAT SIMPLE?

AIN'T NO GUESSWORK ABOUT IT.
PA (POOF)
I GUESS SO...

SHE'D CATCH HELL FOR THAT AT THE ACADEMY...
YEAH, I'M SURE YOU KNOW IT AIN'T SMART TO FIRE OFF SPELLS WILLY-NILLY FOR NO GOOD REASON.

YOU KNOW A CERTAIN RATHER LOVELY WITCH, DON'CHA?
DIDJA KNOW SHE USES INFLAMMARAE TO LIGHT THAT PIPE OF HERS?
...WHA? FOR REAL!?

WELL, SURE...

...AND IT'S RAINING, AND THE LEAVES AND BRANCHES ARE ALL WET. YOU'D USE IT THEN, WOULDN'T YOU?

BUT LET'S SAY YOU NEED TO BUILD A CAMPFIRE, BUT YOU DON'T HAVE A FLINT...

AND IF YOU DIG FOR BRANCHES, YOU'LL FIND PLENTY OF DRY ONES.

IT'S POSSIBLE TO USE BARK FROM TREES AND BRANCHES TO GET ONE STARTED.

BUT IF YOU HAD THE RIGHT KNOW-HOW, YOU COULD CONSERVE THAT SPELL BY BUILDING A FIRE YOURSELF.

A DIFFERENT METHOD IS A DIFFERENT OPTION, AND A DIFFERENT OPTION...

...IS ANOTHER CARD IN YOUR HAND.

A GOOD STOCK OF KNOWLEDGE IS MORE THAN ENOUGH TO HELP YOU USE AS FEW SPELLS AS POSSIBLE...

...AND A SUFFICIENTLY ADVANCED SKILL IS INDISTINGUISHABLE FROM MAGIC IN ANY CASE.

THE ONLY DIFFERENCE LIES IN THE METHOD.

...HOW ARE THOSE DIFFERENT?
I DON'T GET IT.
KEH HEH!

ONE MORE THING.
IT'S TO *USE* THEM.
IT AIN'T A SPELL CASTER'S JOB TO CAST SPELLS.
TOTO (TMP)
TO

SOLVING RIDDLES IS WHAT BEING A WIZARD'S ALL ABOUT.
BETTER FIGURE THAT OUT IF YOU EVER WANT TO GET ANYWHERE.
...!

ANY WIZARD WHO THINKS HIS JOB IS JUST TO FLING FIREBALLS AND LIGHTNING BOLTS AT THE ENEMY...
BARA (FLAP)
...AIN'T NOTHIN' BUT A HEDGE MAGE.

BO (FWOOSH)

KACHI (CLICK)

KACHI

BECAUSE YOU WILL AGITATE THE GOBLINS.

THEY ARE ESPECIALLY SENSITIVE TO THE SMELL OF ELVES.

WHY AM I THE ONLY ONE WHO HAS TO GET DRENCHED IN THIS STUFF...?

YOU'RE GOING GOBLIN HUNTING ...?

I MIGHT BE WILLING TO LEND A HAND... DEPENDING ON THE REWARD.

AH.

WHAT HAPPENED TO THE SACHET OF HERBS YOU WERE USING?

OF MONEY, THAT IS...

...I RAN OUT...

AND IT DOESN'T GROW BACK!

YOU USE IT, AND THEN IT'S GONE!

THIS IS WHY I HATE MONEY!

YOU SHOULD TRY TO MANAGE...

NO, IT DOESN'T.

YES, THAT'S TRUE.

I SEE.

...ALL OF YOUR RESOURCES AS CAREFULLY AS YOU KEEP TRACK OF HOW MANY ARROWS YOU HAVE LEFT.

THAT'S JUST SO, LIKE, WRONG—!!

I SEE.

SFX: KYA (SCREECH) KYA KYA KYA KYA KYA KYA

JUST AN ORDINARY TOTEM.

KARI

KARI (SCRAPE)

THIS SYMBOL DOESN'T MATCH THE GOBLIN PALADIN'S BRAND.

LIKELY FEWER THAN TWENTY.

HOW MANY TOTAL?

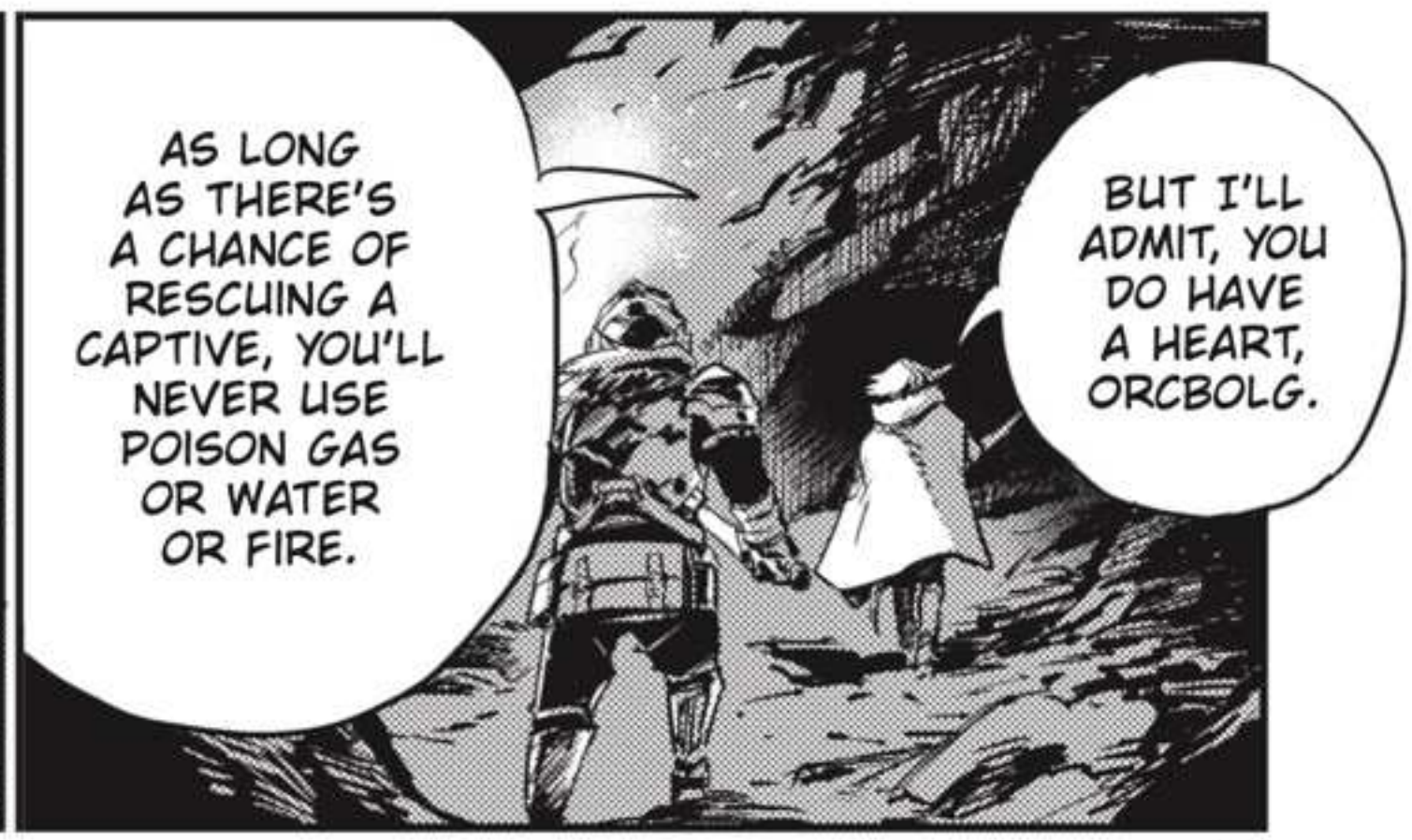
HOW ABOUT THAT!

THERE'S A SHAMAN.

OF COURSE.

THINK WE CAN MANAGE?

IF THEY THINK THEY CAN TAKE US LIGHTLY BECAUSE THERE'S ONLY TWO OF US, THEY'VE GOT ANOTHER THING COMING.



ELVEN PASTRY

HERE, TAKE THIS. SHOULDN'T YOU AT LEAST FILL YOUR BELLY FIRST?

PORI

PORI (CRUNCH)

...LIVELY.

WITH YOU AROUND, THINGS ARE ALWAYS...

...IS THAT A COMPLIMENT? OR ARE YOU TRYING TO SAY I'M ANNOYING?

WHAT?

!

DID YOU NOW?

I MEANT NOTHING BEYOND WHAT I SAID.

PORI

WHAT ABOUT IN FRONT?

WHICH DIRECTION?

THE RIGHT.

NONE AT THE MOMENT.

THAT WAS QUICK.

IT DIDN'T FEEL LIKE WE WERE BEING WATCHED...

...BUT I GUESS THEY'VE LEARNED THAT IF THEY KIDNAP A WOMAN, ADVENTURERS ARE SURE TO FOLLOW.

THEY ALWAYS THINK THEY ARE THE ONLY ONES WHO KNOW HOW TO SET AN AMBUSH.

KAN

KAN (CLANG)

KAN

GAN (BANG)
!!
GOGO (RMBL)
GO
GO
DO (BOOM)
DO

GO -
(WHACK)
PA
(BAP)
PA
PA

FOUR.

ZU (SHFF)

KOON (BONG)

BYUU (FWOOM)

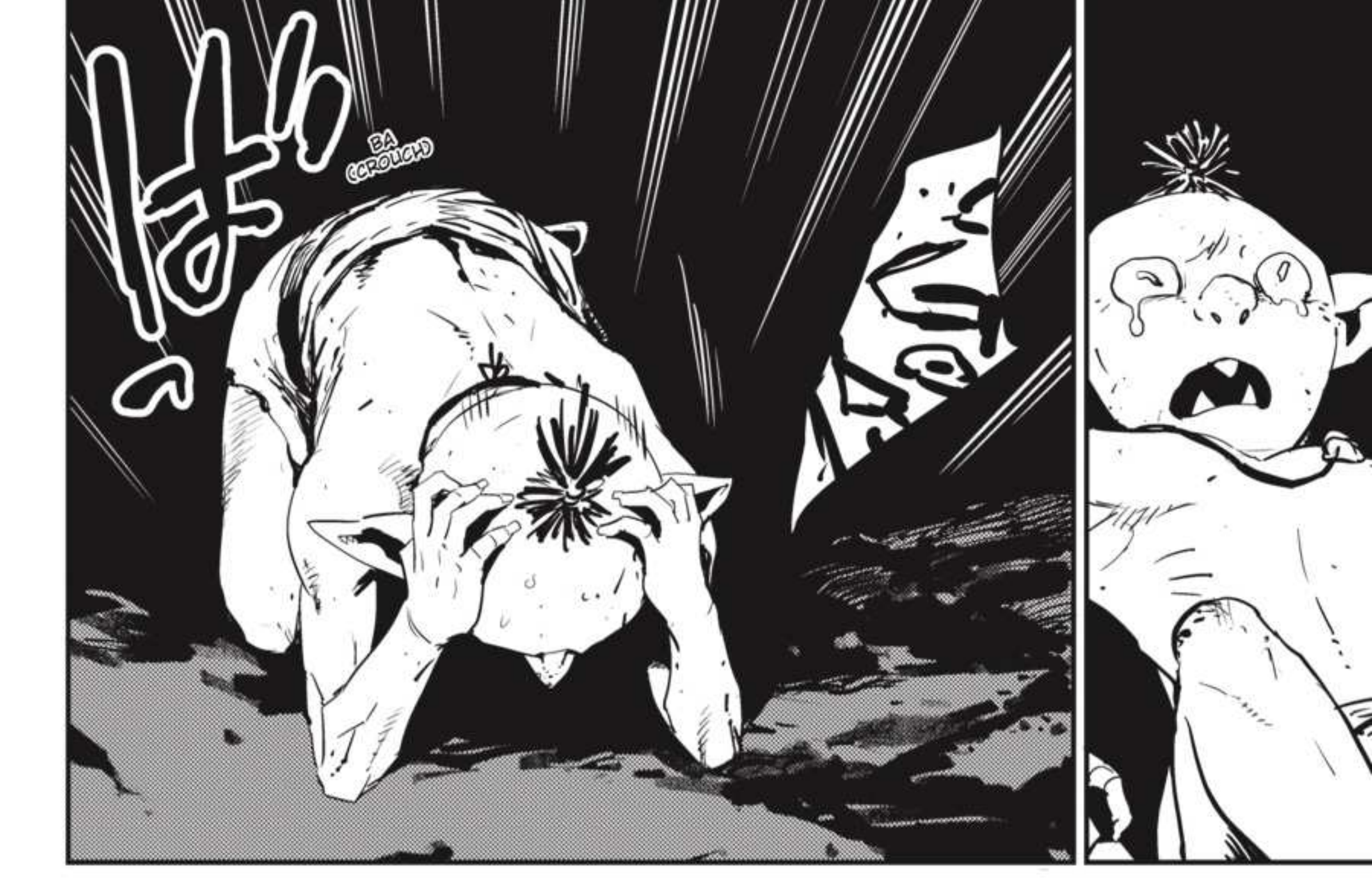
DO (THUMP)

FIVE.

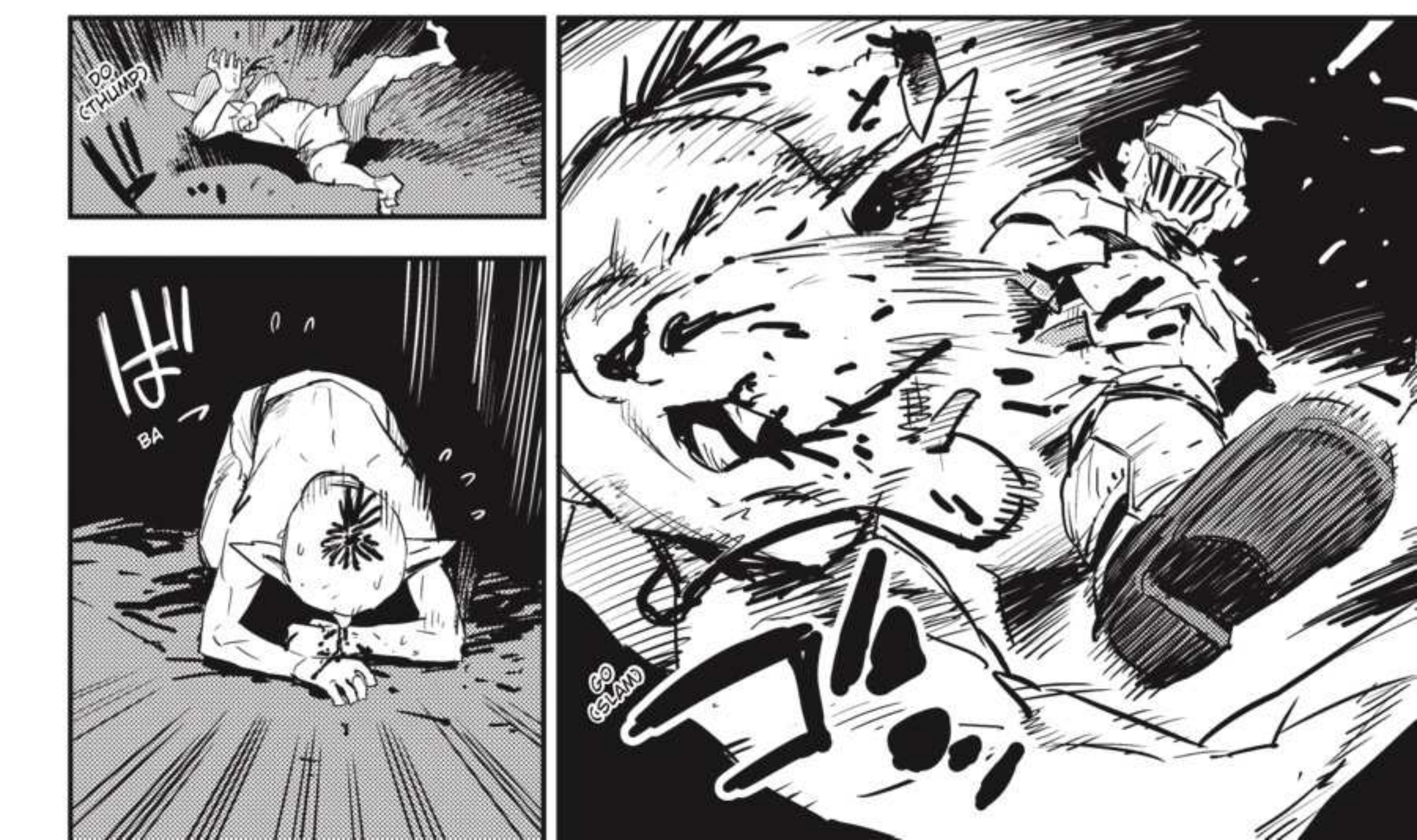
DO (THUD)

ZUGU (SPLORCH)

CHAPTER 68

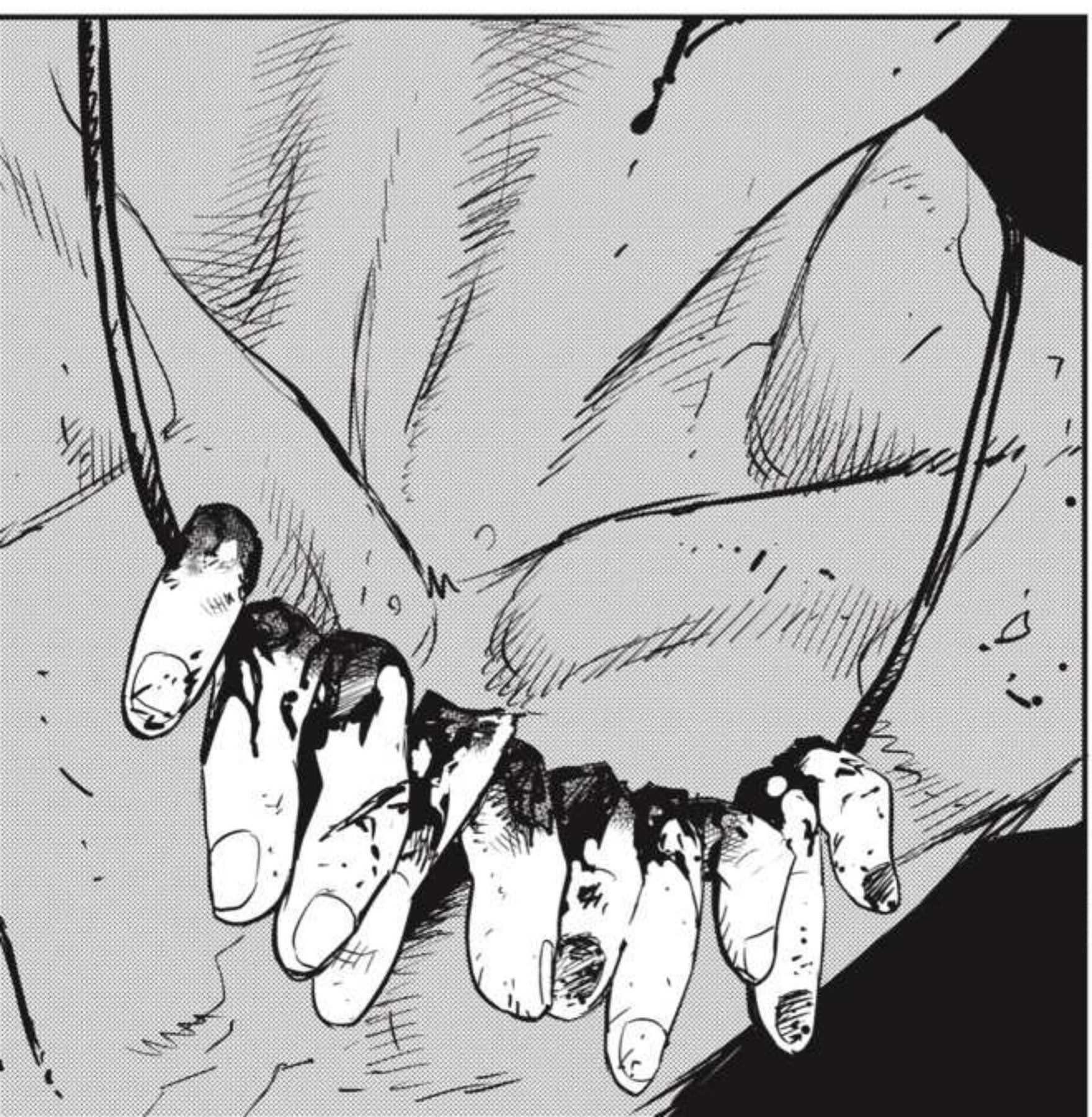

BA
(CROUCH)

DOES IT RECOGNIZE US? COULD BE ONE THAT GOT AWAY FROM THE MAUSOLEUM.


DO
(THUMP)
BA
GO
(SLAM)

BUT BASED ON SIZE... MORE LIKELY JUST A CHILD.

IT WAS AT THE REAR OF THAT GROUP, SO I THOUGHT IT MIGHT BE ONE OF THEIR MORE IMPORTANT MEMBERS.

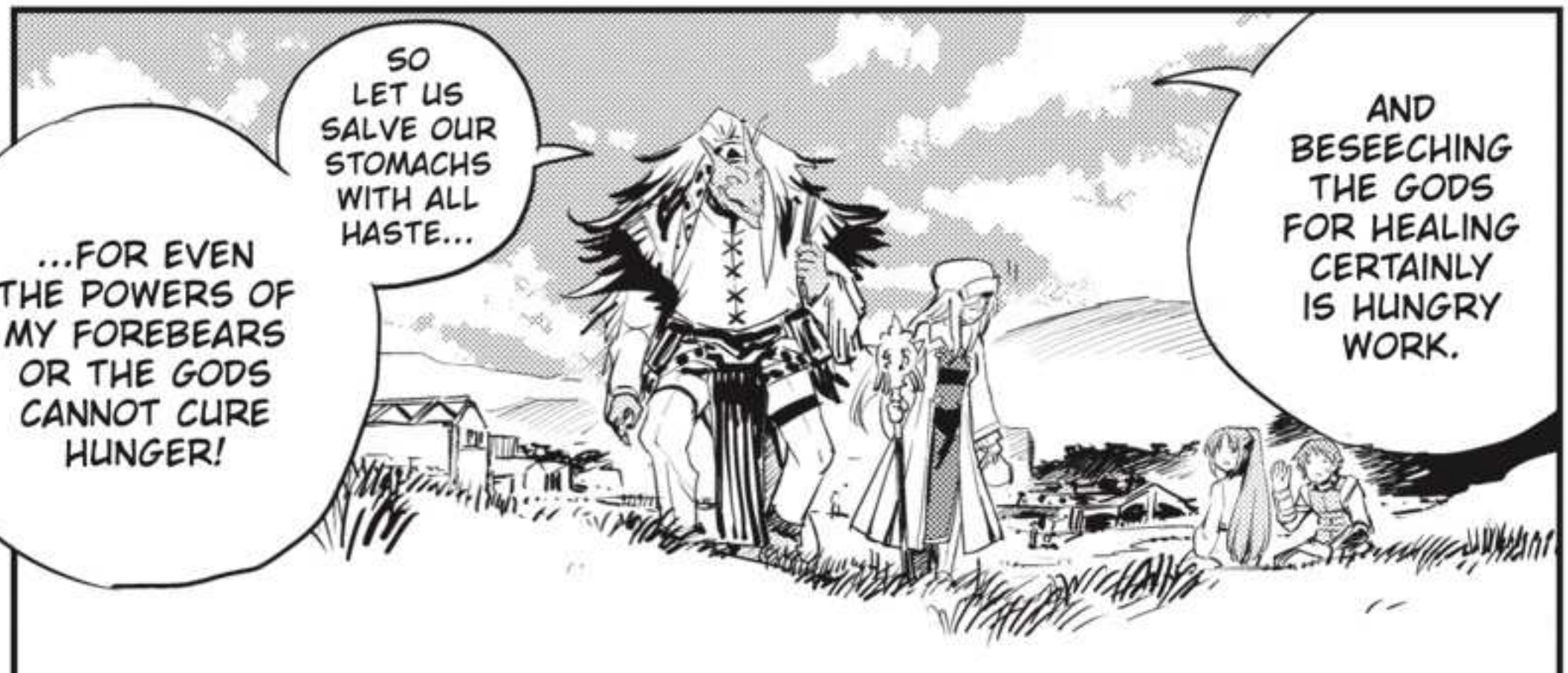


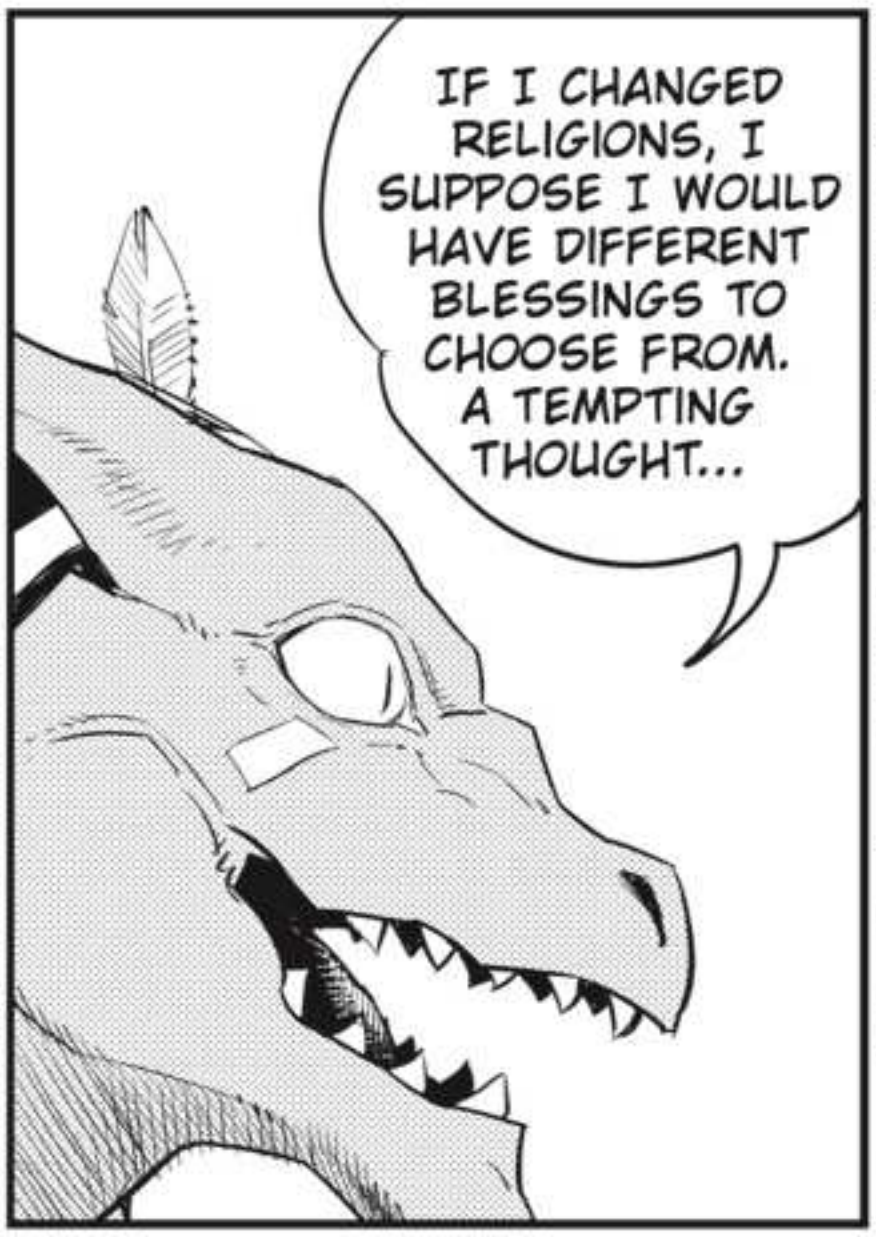
WE KILL THEM ALL.

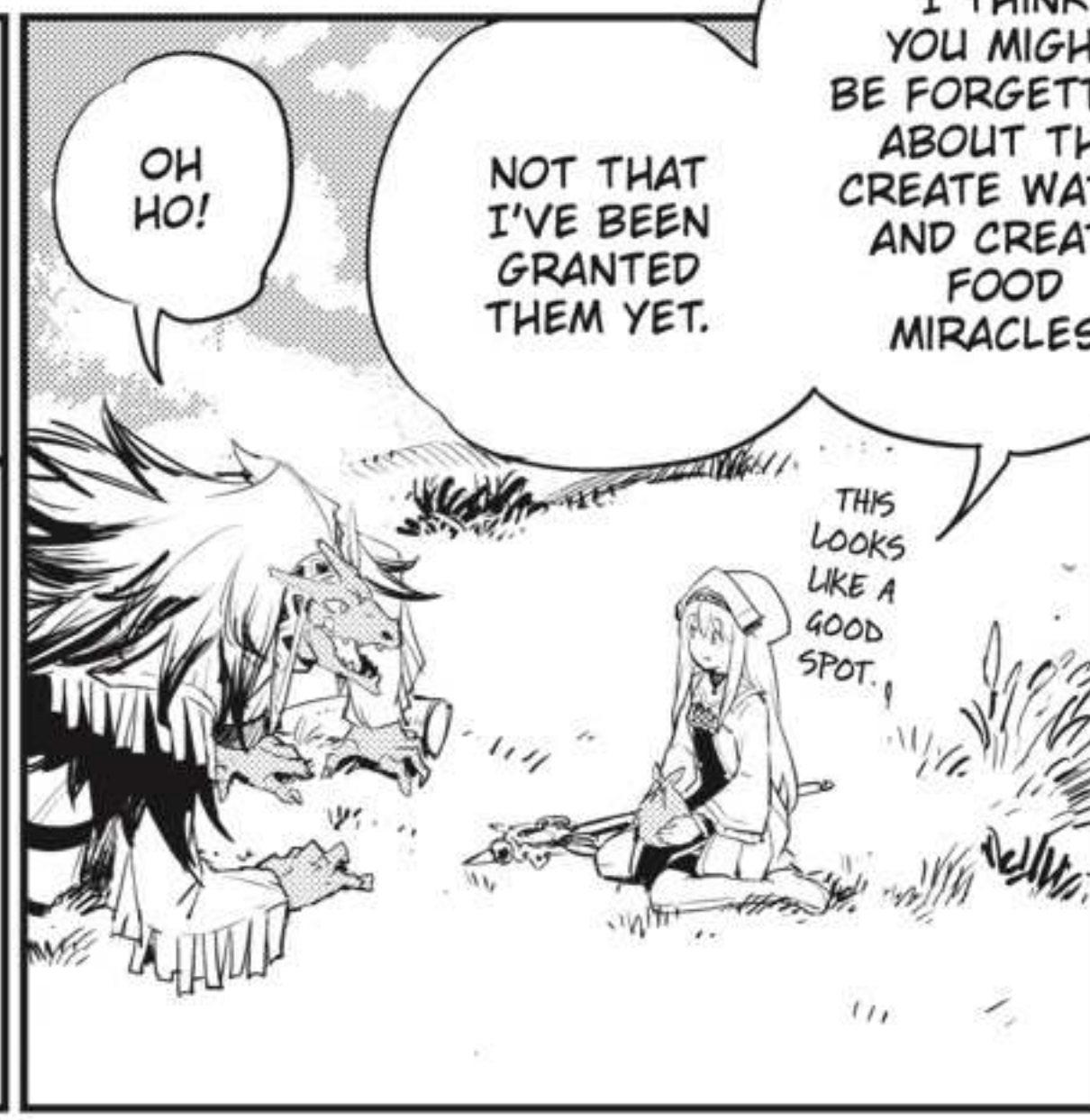
HMM! INDEED, I BELIEVE YOU MAY BE RIGHT.

COME TO THINK OF IT...
...THIS MIGHT BE THE FIRST TIME IT'S BEEN JUST THE TWO OF US.

VERY TRUE. I'M ALL OUT OF MIRACLES ALREADY...
CONSTRUCTION SITES AND TRAINING GROUNDS ARE THE SOURCE OF NO END OF INJURIES...
...SO HEALERS LIKE OURSELVES ARE MUCH IN DEMAND HERE.


...FOR EVEN THE POWERS OF MY FOREBEARS OR THE GODS CANNOT CURE HUNGER!
SO LET US SALVE OUR STOMACHS WITH ALL HASTE...
AND BESEECHING THE GODS FOR HEALING CERTAINLY IS HUNGRY WORK.


IF I CHANGED RELIGIONS, I SUPPOSE I WOULD HAVE DIFFERENT BLESSINGS TO CHOOSE FROM. A TEMPTING THOUGHT...


OH HO!
NOT THAT I'VE BEEN GRANTED THEM YET.
I THINK YOU MIGHT BE FORGETTING ABOUT THE CREATE WATER AND CREATE FOOD MIRACLES.
THIS LOOKS LIKE A GOOD SPOT.

THAT'S RIGHT. BUT...I FOR ONE DON'T THINK I COULD HANDLE ANY MORE PRAYING TODAY...

I'M GLAD I COULD MAKE A DIFFERENCE, THOUGH, SINCE MINOR HEAL IS ABLE TO TREAT EVEN FAIRLY SEVERE INJURIES.
INDEED!

PRIESTESS'S LUNCH

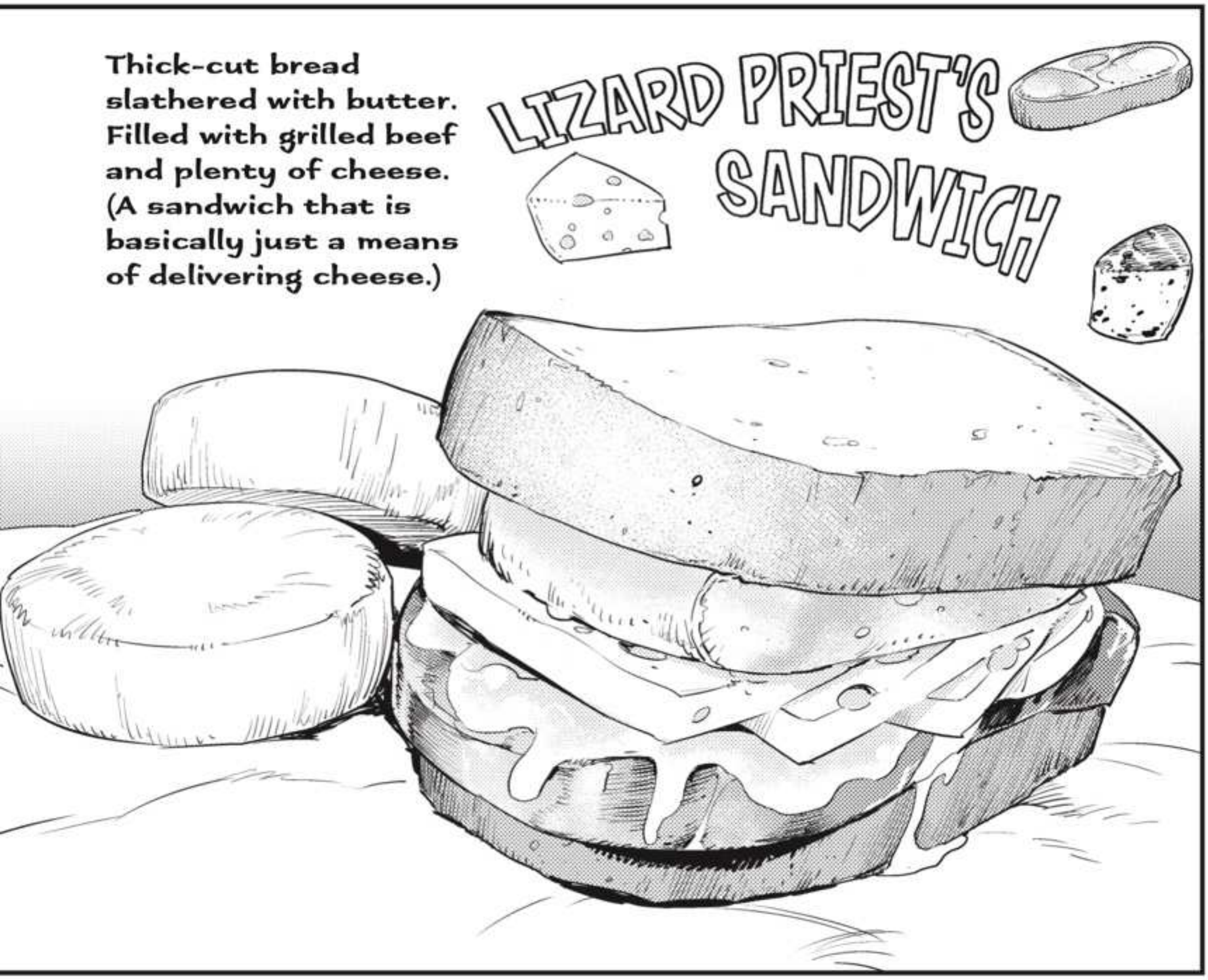
Fragrant wheat bread, farm-fresh cheese, dried fruits (apricots, raisins), and watered-down wine. A well-balanced meal, though somewhat light for lunch.

FRANKLY, I WOULD IMAGINE THAT A BIT OF MEAT ON YOUR BONES WOULD DO NO HARM. YOU ARE RATHER TOO THIN, CHILD.
HERE!
WELL, IT DOESN'T HELP THAT THE FOOD IN TOWN IS SO GOOD...

THE CHIEF PRIESTESS ALWAYS SAID THE SAME THING, BUT...
...WHEN THERE ARE SO MANY OTHER ATTRACTIVE WOMEN AROUND THESE PARTS...

NOW, ALLOW ME TO PRESENT MY OWN.

HOH HOH HOH HOH!
WOW!
IS THAT A SANDWICH?


Thick-cut bread slathered with butter. Filled with grilled beef and plenty of cheese. (A sandwich that is basically just a means of delivering cheese.)
LIZARD PRIEST'S SANDWICH

I'LL ADMIT, YOU'RE NOT WRONG.
MMM-HMM!
THIS IS NOTHING LESS THAN TRUE FREEDOM!
ANY INGREDIENTS YOU WISH, IN ANY QUANTITY YOU WISH, TOGETHER AS ONE.

MM! IF FOOD IS CULTURE, THEN THIS IS PROOF OF A TRULY ENLIGHTENED CIVILIZATION.

THERE'S NOTHING BETTER THAN BEING ABLE TO EAT WHAT YOU LIKE, ISN'T THERE?

GABU (CHOMP)

MUSHARI (CHEW)

MUSHARI

HEE-HEE! YOU REALLY DO LIKE YOUR CHEESE.

THAT I DO! THIS ALONE IS ENOUGH TO MAKE ME GLAD THAT I CHOSE TO VENTURE INTO THE HUMAN WORLD.

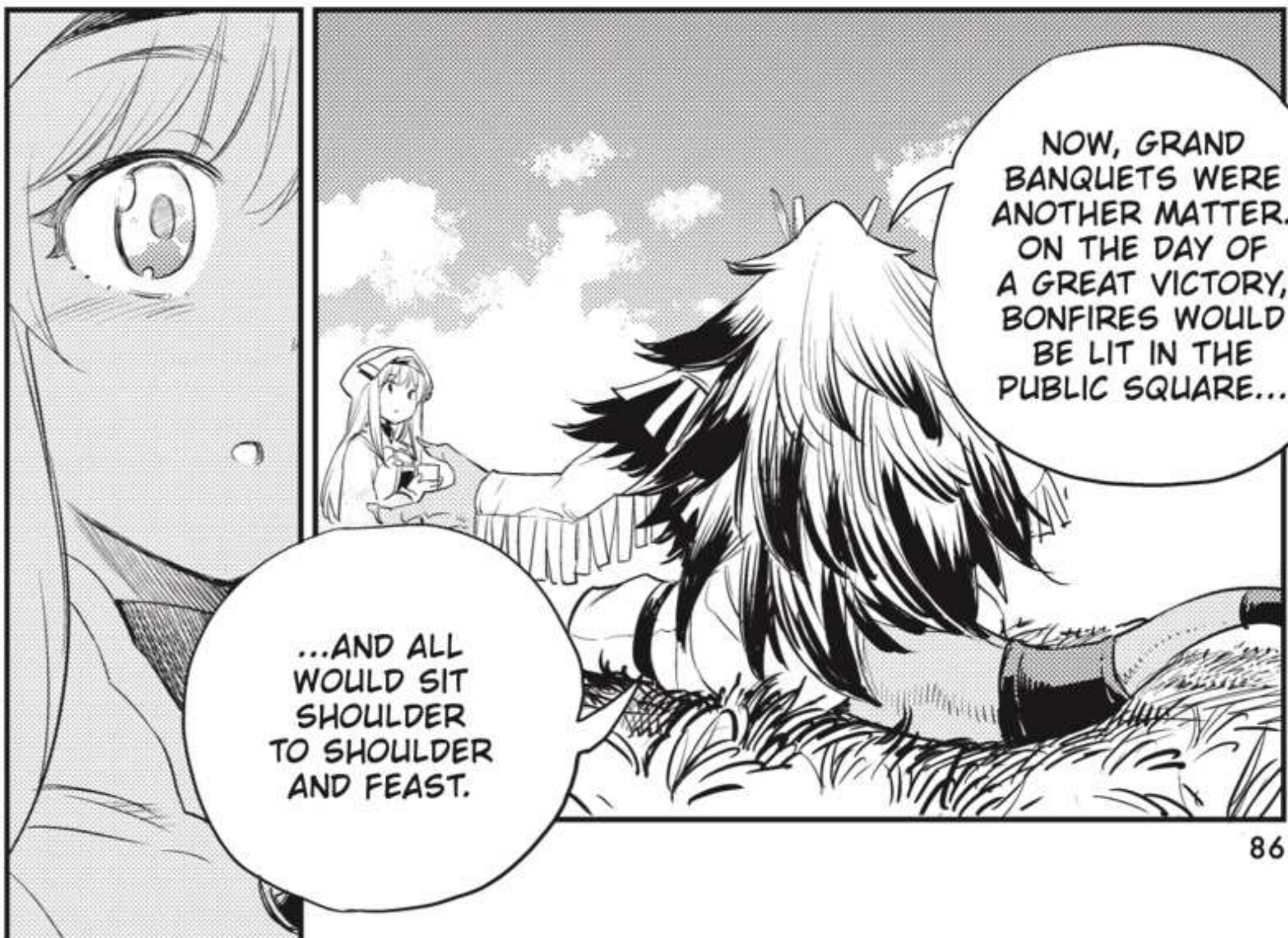
AHHH! SWEET NECTAR—!!

WHAT KIND OF FOOD DID YOU EAT BACK IN YOUR HOMELAND?

MY PEOPLE ARE WARRIORS AND HUNTERS, SO WE CONSUMED WHAT BIRDS OR BEASTS WE COULD HUNT DOWN.

ALL SAT ON THE GROUND OR FLOOR, RATHER LIKE WE DO NOW.
EACH ATE WITH THEIR LIKE— YOUNG WARRIORS WITH OTHER YOUNG WARRIORS, THE MORE EXPERIENCED WITH THEIR OWN COHORT, AND OUR LEADERS WITH ONE ANOTHER AS WELL.

COULD COMMON TROOPS EVER TRULY RELAX WERE A KING OR CAPTAIN TO EAT AMONG THEM?
YOU MEAN YOU WOULDN'T ALL EAT TOGETHER?
I SEE. SO THAT'S WHY...


NOW, GRAND BANQUETS WERE ANOTHER MATTER. ON THE DAY OF A GREAT VICTORY, BONFIRES WOULD BE LIT IN THE PUBLIC SQUARE...
...AND ALL WOULD SIT SHOULDER TO SHOULDER AND FEAST.

WE WOULD ALSO HARVEST CORN AND POTATOES AT TIMES...

OH! POTATOES GO WELL WITH CHEESE, YOU KNOW.

I SHOULD SAY SO.

IT MUST HAVE BEEN VERY FESTIVE!

NECTAR!

NOW THIS I MUST HEAR!

EEP!

OH HO!

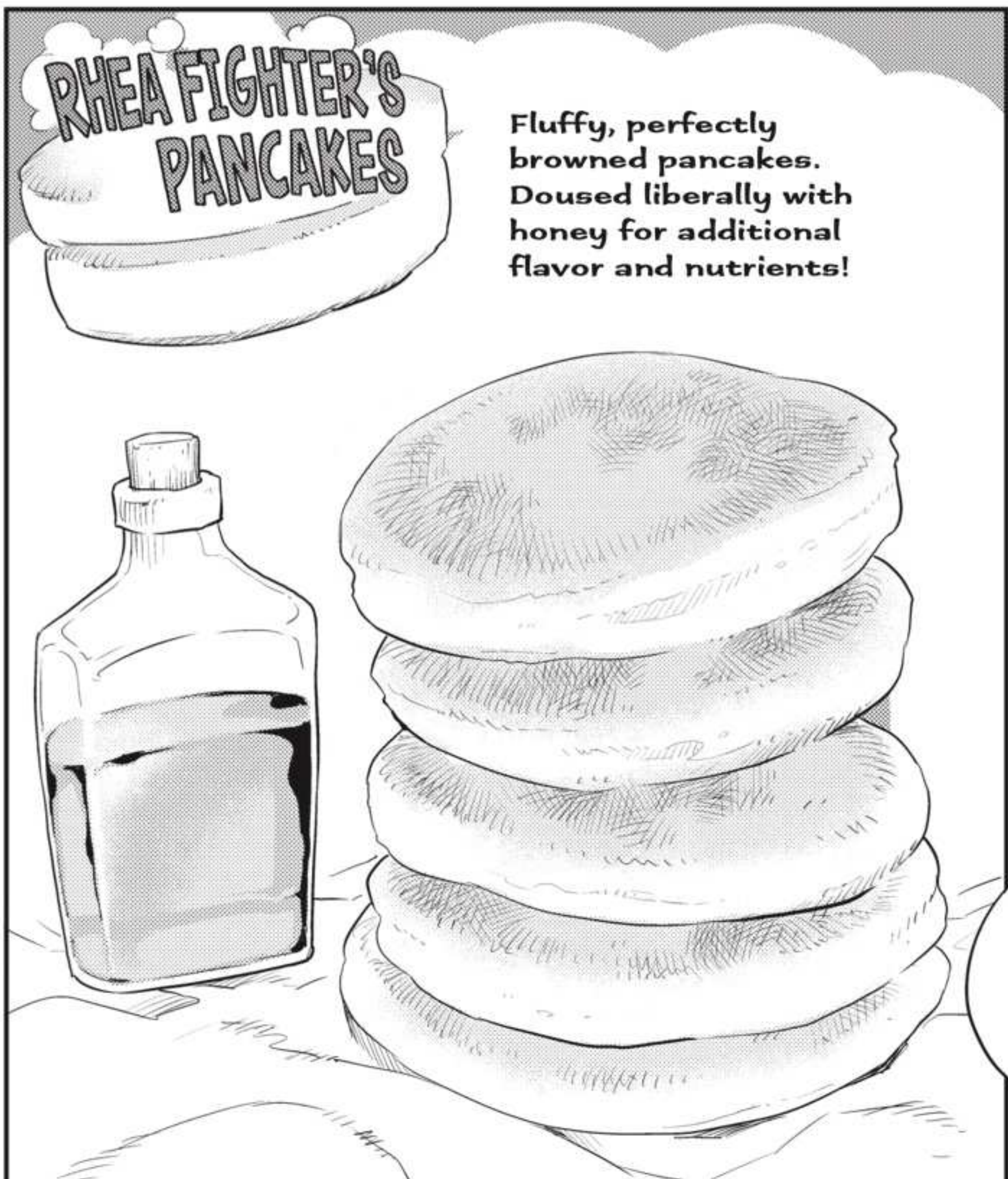
UH, WELL... I MADE IT WHEN I WAS AT THE TEMPLE...

YOU JUST CHOP THE POTATOES, MIX UP A SAUCE OF MILK, FLOUR, AND BUTTER, THEN POUR THAT AND CHEESE OVER THE POTATOES AND COOK THEM IN AN OVEN.

WE WOULD ALL GATHER IN THE GREAT HALL AND ENJOY THE DISH AFTER SAYING OUR PRAYERS.
SHARING A MEAL WITH FRIENDS CAN ONLY DEEPEN ONE'S TIES WITH THEM.
A FINE IDEA...!
HOW ABOUT YOU AND I MAKE IT SOMETIME?
ANOTHER FINE IDEA!
MY RELIGION'S TEACHINGS...
...MAKE NO MENTION OF THE NEED TO SHARE MY FOOD WITH OTHERS.
OOOH! THOSE LOOK LIKE SOME GOOD EATS!
A SANDWICH? NICE!
CAN I HAVE A BITE?
AWWW!

SURE, THAT'S FINE BY ME!
I TOO DO NOT MIND.
DON'T MIND IF I DO, THEN!

CAN I JOIN YOU?
OH WELL! I BROUGHT MY OWN LUNCH ANYWAY!


RHEA FIGHTER'S PANCAKES
Fluffy, perfectly browned pancakes. Doused liberally with honey for additional flavor and nutrients!

WOW!

TOROOORI (OOZE)

HRMPH!

AH-HA-HA...

BUT YOU CAN'T ALWAYS STOP FOR A SNACK IN THE MIDDLE OF AN ADVENTURE, SO I'VE HAD TO UP THE SIZE OF EACH MEAL!

I GET THE FEELING SHE'D EAT THIS MUCH NO MATTER WHAT...

WE RHEAS EAT FIVE OR SIX TIMES A DAY!

YOU'VE GOT QUITE THE APPETITE!

A WHOLE PANCAKE, GONE JUST LIKE THAT...

MO

MO (MUNCH)

UH-HUH.

I'D LIKE HELP, BUT I'M JUST ONE NOVICE WARRIOR AMONG MANY.

I'M AT THE POINT WHERE IT'S LIKE, "MAYBE I'LL JUST GO HUNT RATS OR SOMETHING BY MYSELF."

AH YES... I BELIEVE YOU ARE CURRENTLY SOLO, ARE YOU NOT?

もっ MO (MUNCH)

もっ MO

UM...

IF IT'S ALL RIGHT WITH YOU, WOULD YOU LIKE...

...TO GO ON AN ADVENTURE TOGETHER?

AN ADVENTURE?

THERE'S A GOOD CHANCE IT MIGHT ONLY BE FOR ONE QUEST...

I GET IT.

YOU NEED TO PROVE YOUR OWN ABILITIES IN ORDER TO EARN A PROMOTION...

...SO YOU'RE LOOKING FOR OTHER ADVENTURERS TO TEAM UP WITH YOU SHORT TERM.

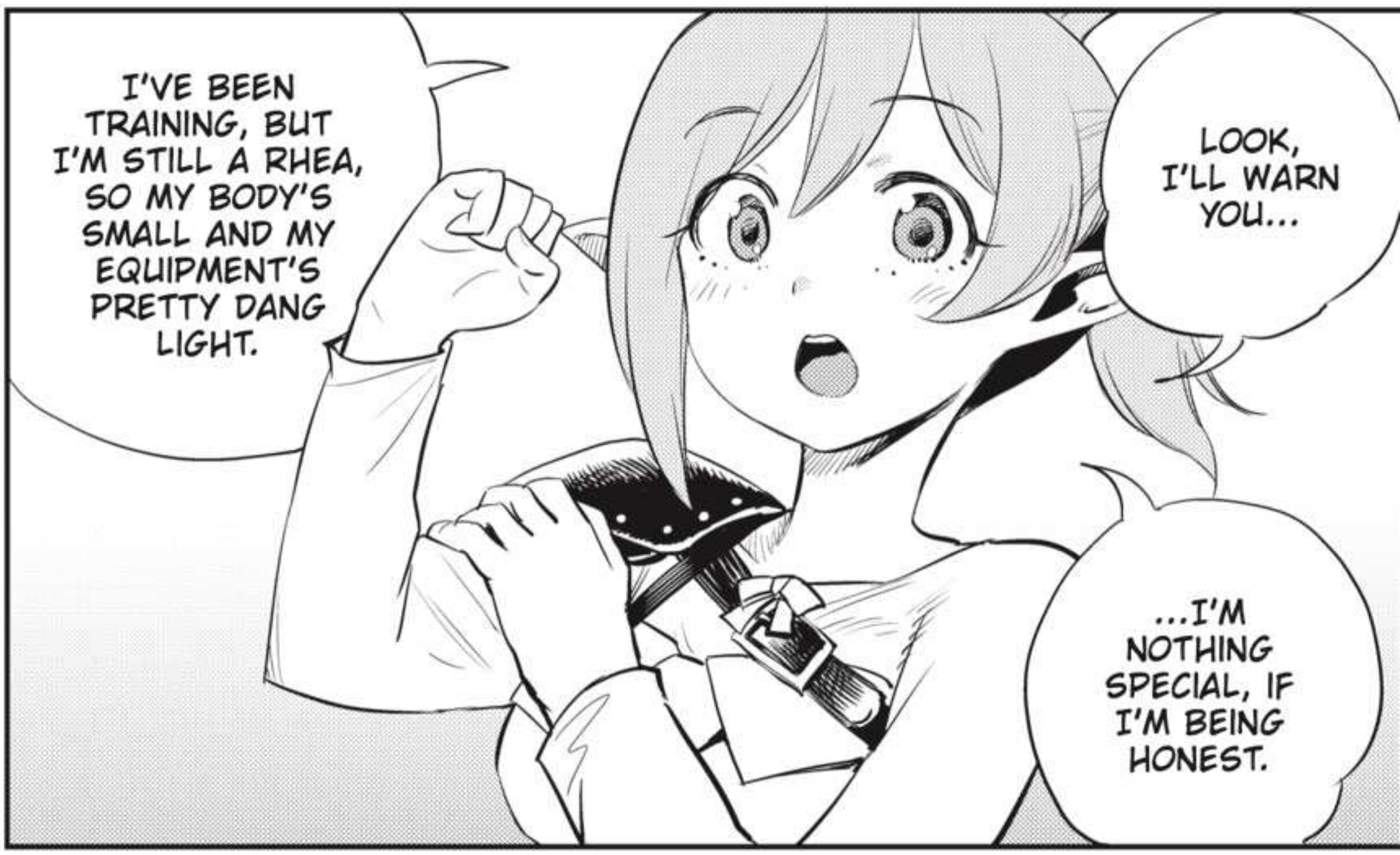
BUT WHAT ABOUT THAT GUY IN ALL THE ARMOR— GOBLIN SLAYER OR WHATEVER?

THOUGH I DON'T SEE HIM AROUND TODAY.

WELL, UH...

AS A MATTER OF FACT...

HMM...


I'VE BEEN TRAINING, BUT I'M STILL A RHEA, SO MY BODY'S SMALL AND MY EQUIPMENT'S PRETTY DANG LIGHT.
LOOK, I'LL WARN YOU...
...I'M NOTHING SPECIAL, IF I'M BEING HONEST.

EVEN SO...
...YOU HAVE GOOD LUCK.

AND I'M JUST A PLAIN OLD WARRIOR...
ARE YOU SURE YOU WANT ME?

...DOES SHE NOT?

GOOD LUCK ...?

THAT'S RIGHT!

OR YOU JUST SO HAPPEN TO HAVE A CONVIVIAL RELATIONSHIP WITH FATE, IF YOU PREFER.

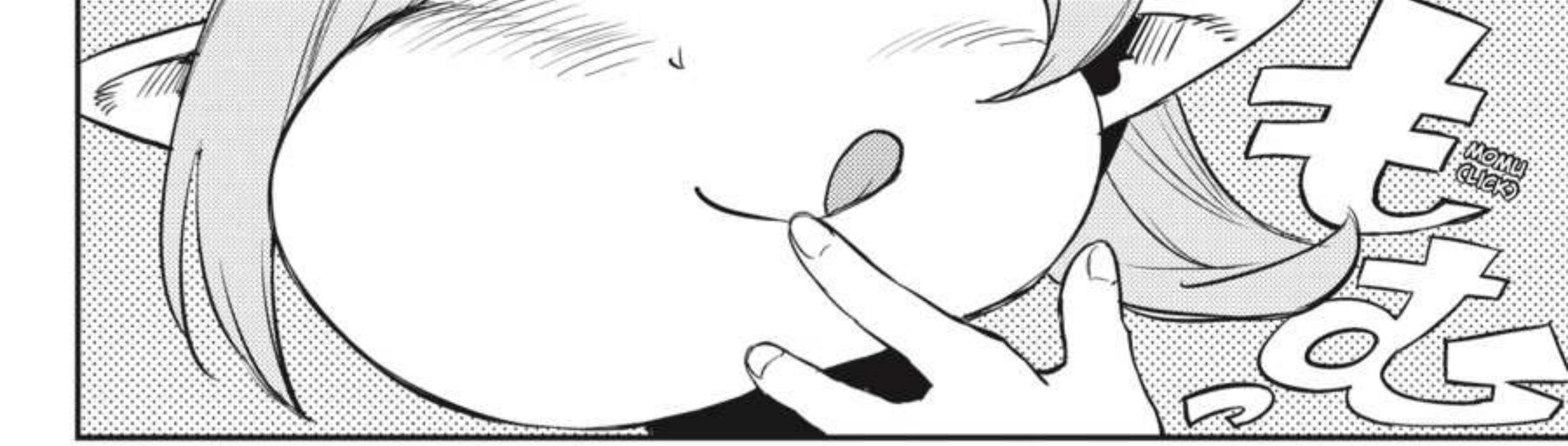
YOU TALKED TO US ABOUT POTIONS AND STUFF THAT ONE TIME. THAT'S WHY I FELT COMFORTABLE ASKING YOU TO GO WITH ME.

OH! YOU REMEMBER THAT?

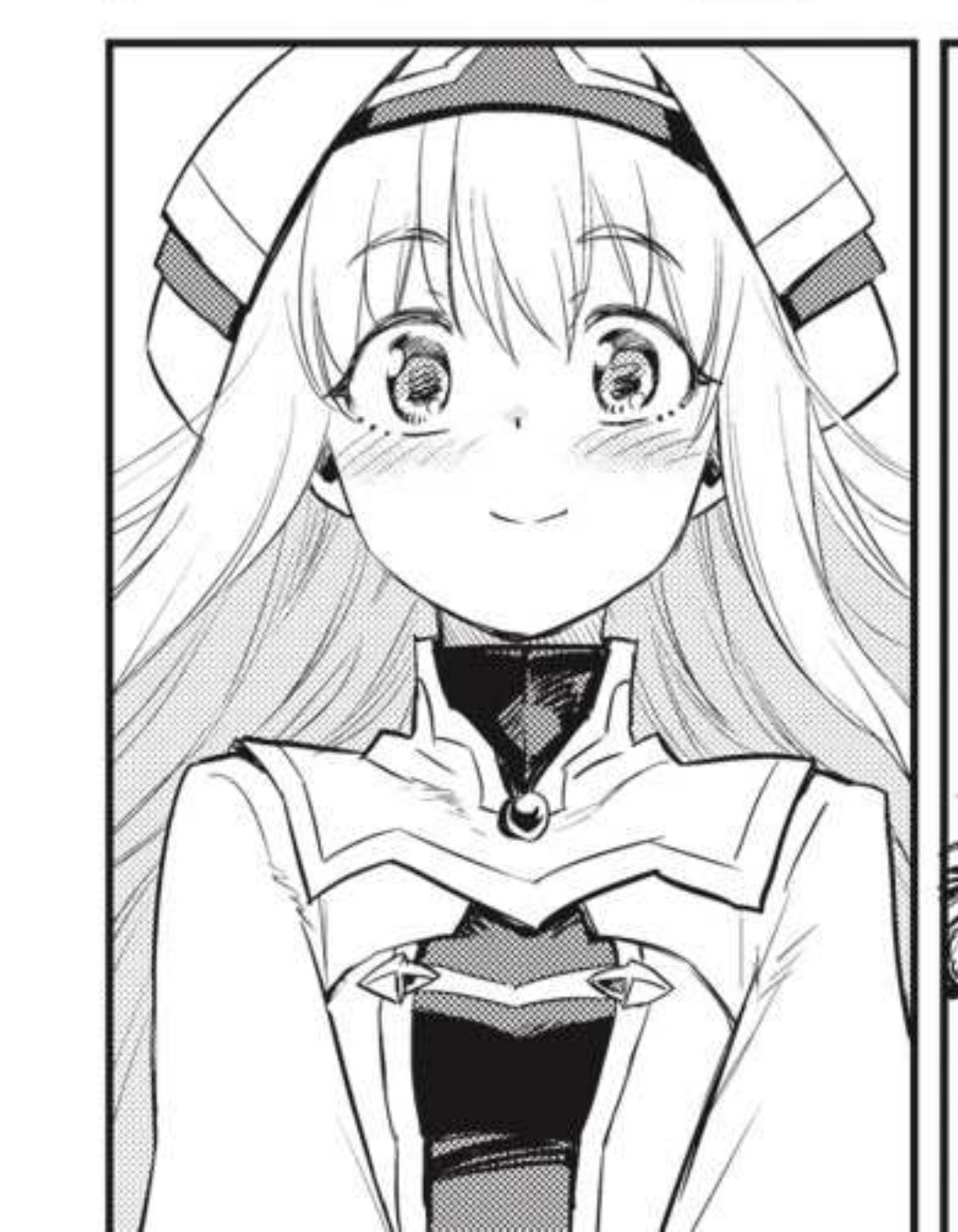
COULD STILL BE A TEEEENSY BIT ROUGH, THOUGH, WITH JUST YOU AND ME.

YEAH, OKAY.

SOUNDS GOOD!


MOMU (LICK)

JUST LEAVE IT TO ME— I'VE GOT AN IDEA!
SO LET'S INVITE SOME MORE PEOPLE!
OH! I'LL COME WITH YOU!

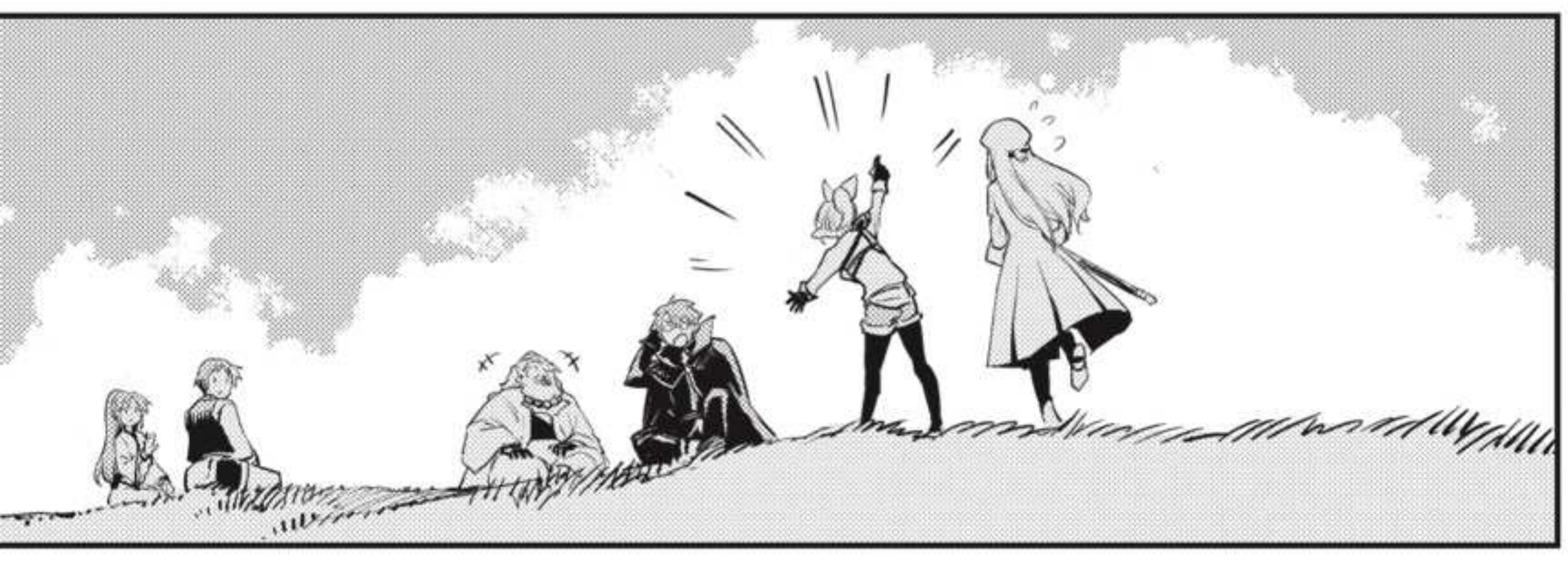


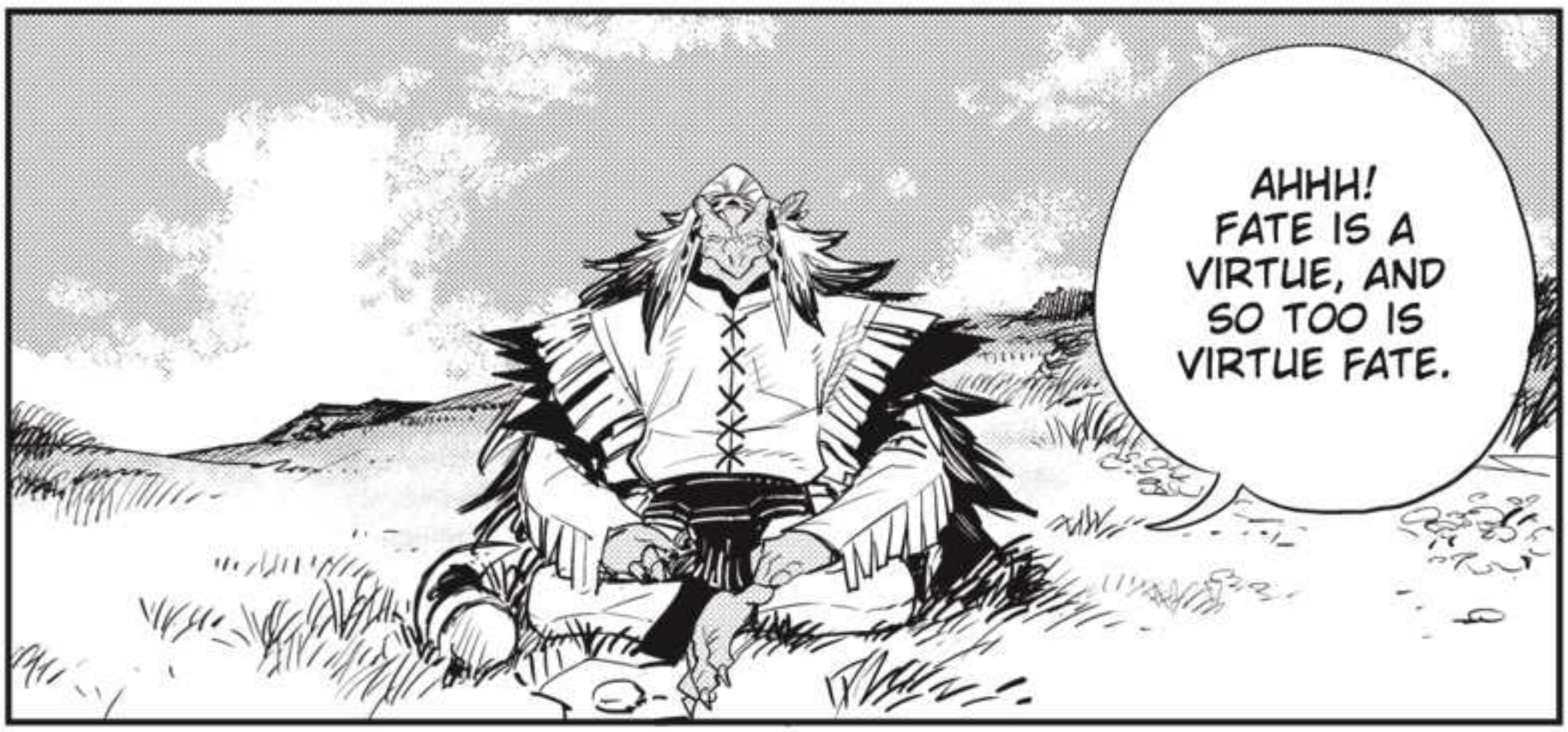
RIGHT!

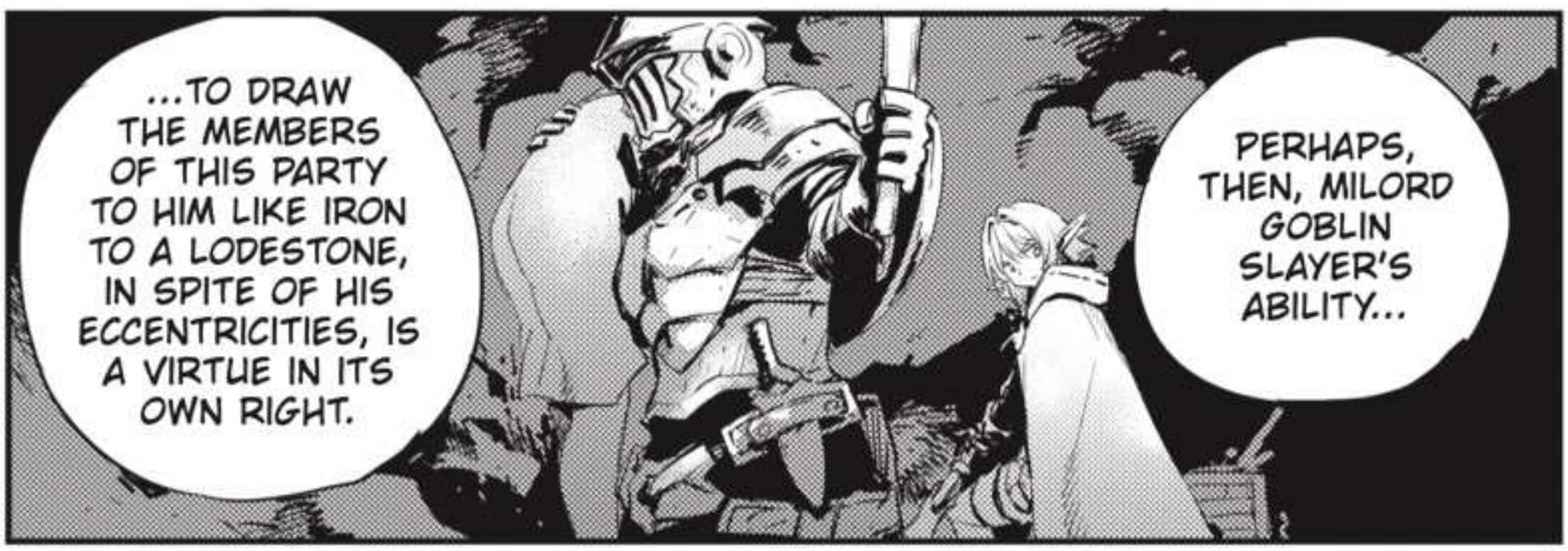
SORRY!

AND THANK YOU...!

HEEEY! C'MOOON!




AHHH! FATE IS A VIRTUE, AND SO TOO IS VIRTUE FATE.


...TO DRAW THE MEMBERS OF THIS PARTY TO HIM LIKE IRON TO A LODESTONE, IN SPITE OF HIS ECCENTRICITIES, IS A VIRTUE IN ITS OWN RIGHT.
PERHAPS, THEN, MILORD GOBLIN SLAYER'S ABILITY...

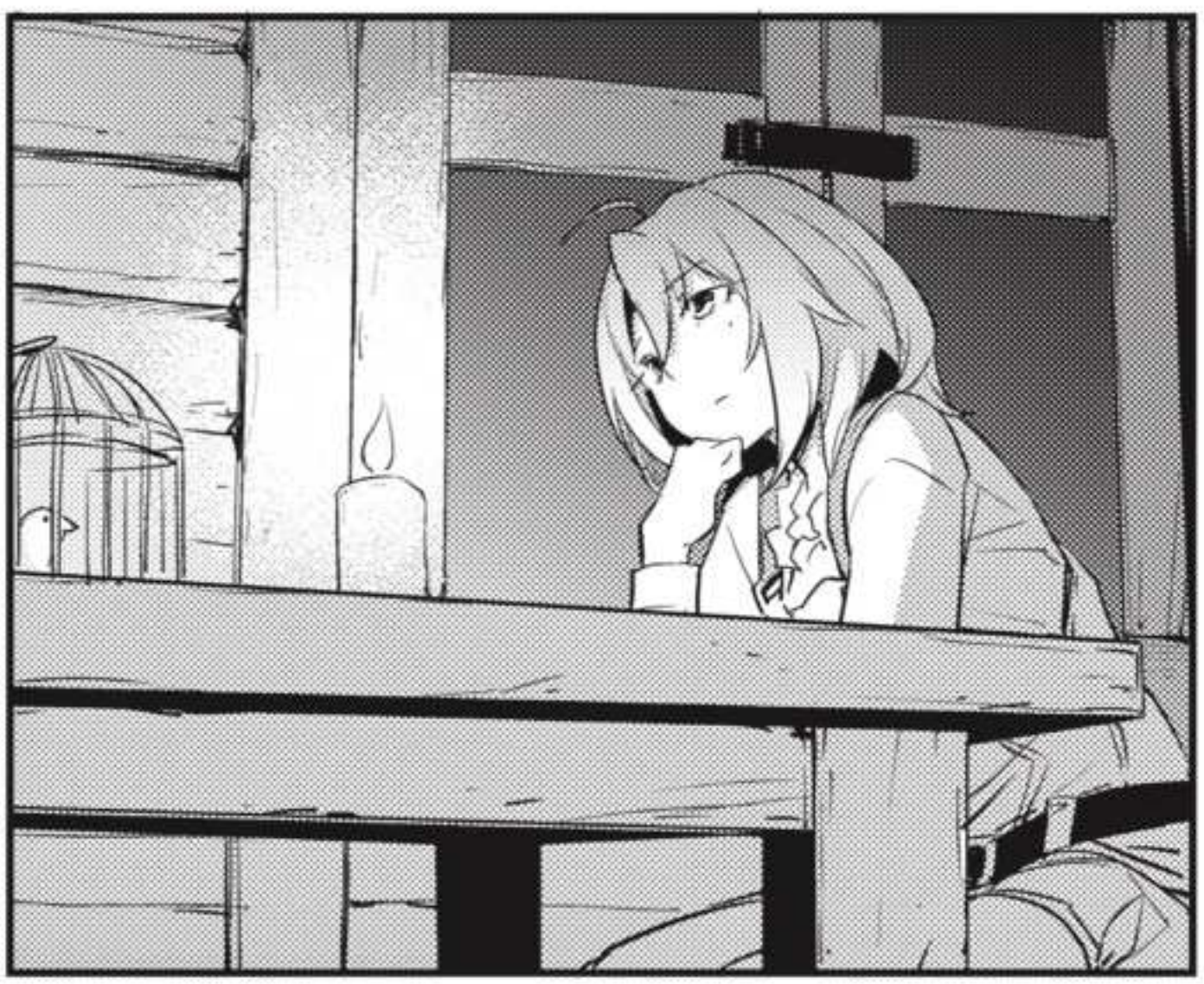
CHIRP
CHIRP
CHIRP...
CHAPTER 69

MM...
HUH...?

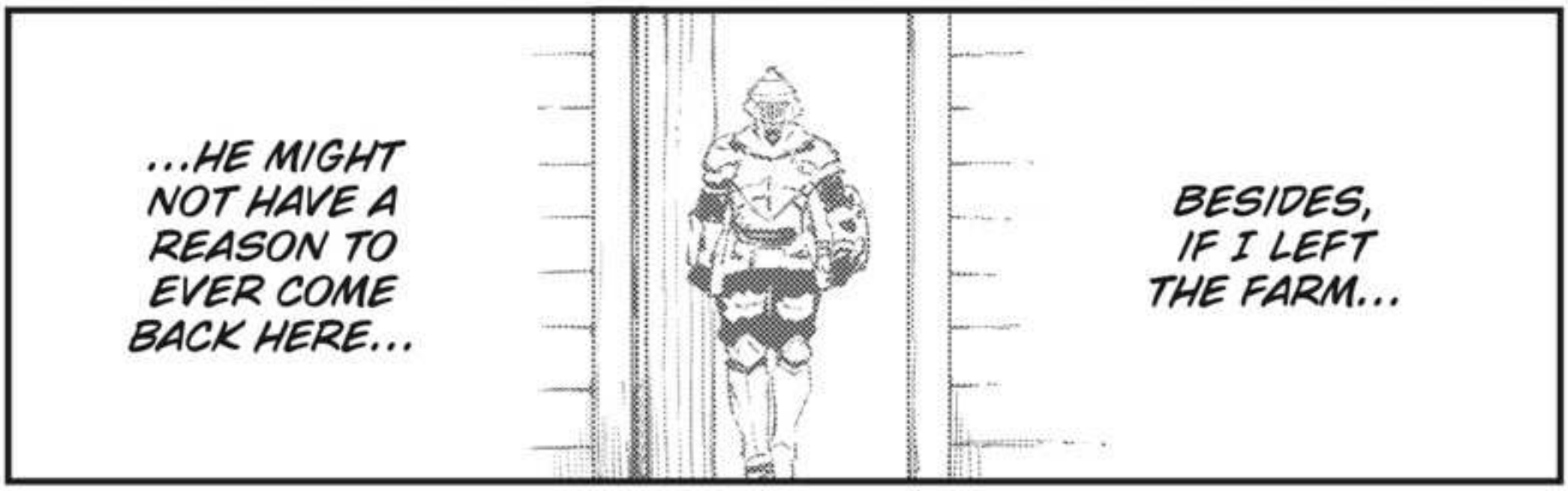
OH...
I FELL
ASLEEP.
MRGH...
HOPE MY
SLEEVE DIDN'T
LEAVE MARKS
ON MY FACE.

WHAT'S THE MATTER? DID YOU GET A LITTLE CHILLY?

OR MAYBE YOU'RE JUST HUNGRY?



MAYBE THE BEST SOLUTION WOULD BE TO START GOING WITH HIM?



ガタカタ
GATAGA
(CLATTER)

...YIKES. SOMEONE THINKS AN AWFUL LOT OF HERSELF.

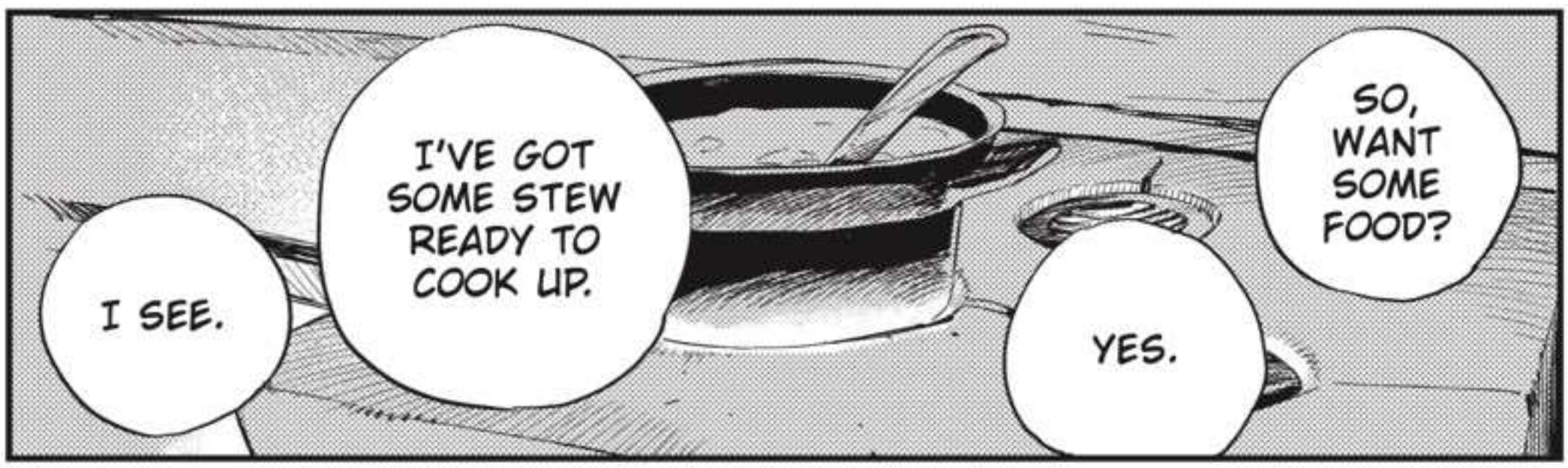
...I'M BACK.
WELCOME HOME!
WERE YOU AWAKE ALL THIS TIME?

NUH-UH. I JUST GOT UP.
NOPE. DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT.
DID I WAKE YOU?
ドカ...
DOKA
(THUMP)

ギィィ
GII
(CREAK)

THAT BIRD'S AMAZING. IT'S LIKE IT KNEW YOU WERE HOME WAY BEFORE YOU CAME IN THE DOOR.
HM.

ACTUALLY, SOMEONE WOKE ME UP AT JUST THE RIGHT MOMENT.
DIDN'T YOU?


I'VE GOT SOME STEW READY TO COOK UP.
SO, WANT SOME FOOD?
I SEE.
YES.

RIGHT.
THERE'S A CLOTH OVER THERE...
YOU MIGHT WANT TO WIPE DOWN YOUR ARMOR A LITTLE.
GOSHI
ゴシゴシ
GOSHI (RUB)

THINGS HAVE BEEN NONSTOP FOR YOU LATELY, HUH?

GA (SHOVEL) ホー

GA ホー

YES.

SURE YOU AREN'T TOO BUSY?

GOBLINS, SURE...BUT YOU'RE GOING TO THAT NEW TRAINING AREA TOO, RIGHT?

YOU'VE BEEN OUT WORKING ALL THE TIME.

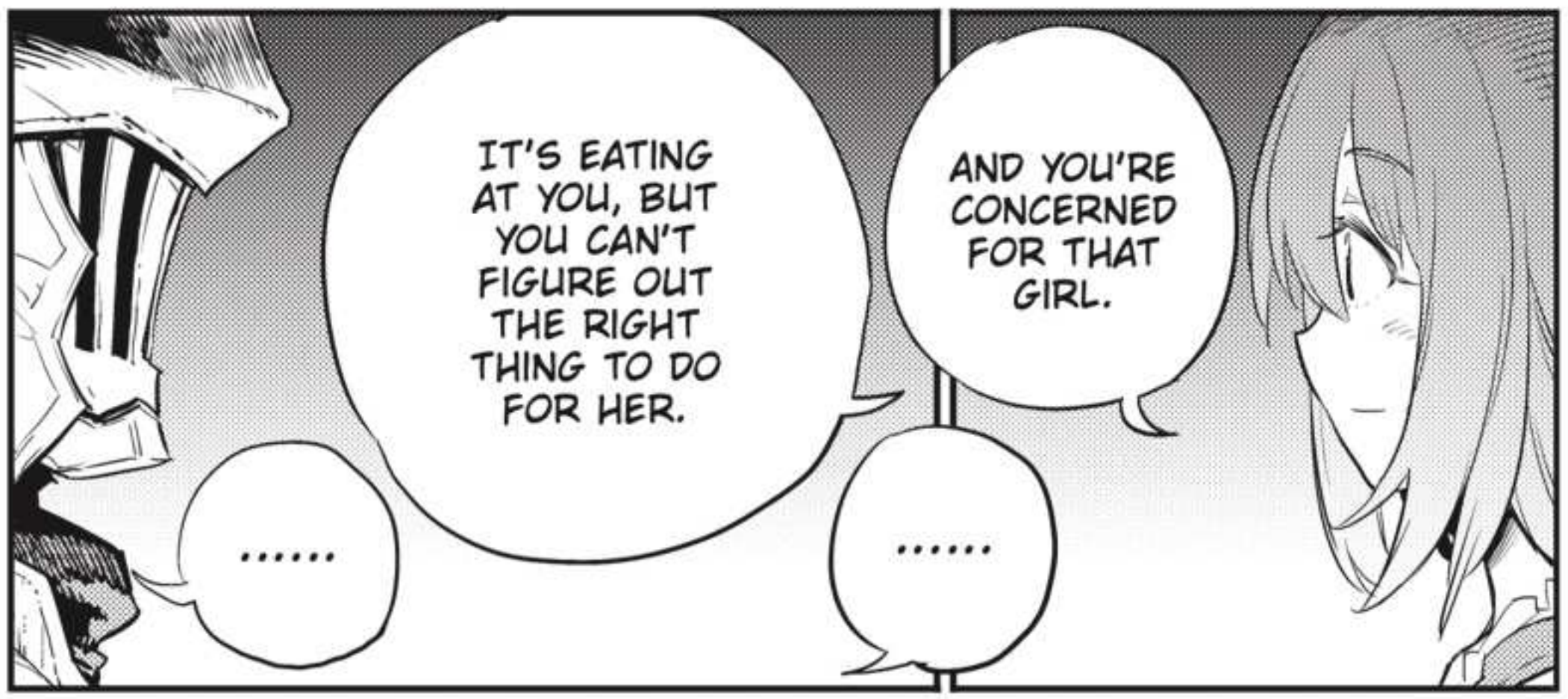
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

AND I BET YOU DON'T LIKE THAT THEY BUILT SOMETHING ELSE IN THAT SPOT, DO YOU?

...I'M NOT SURE.

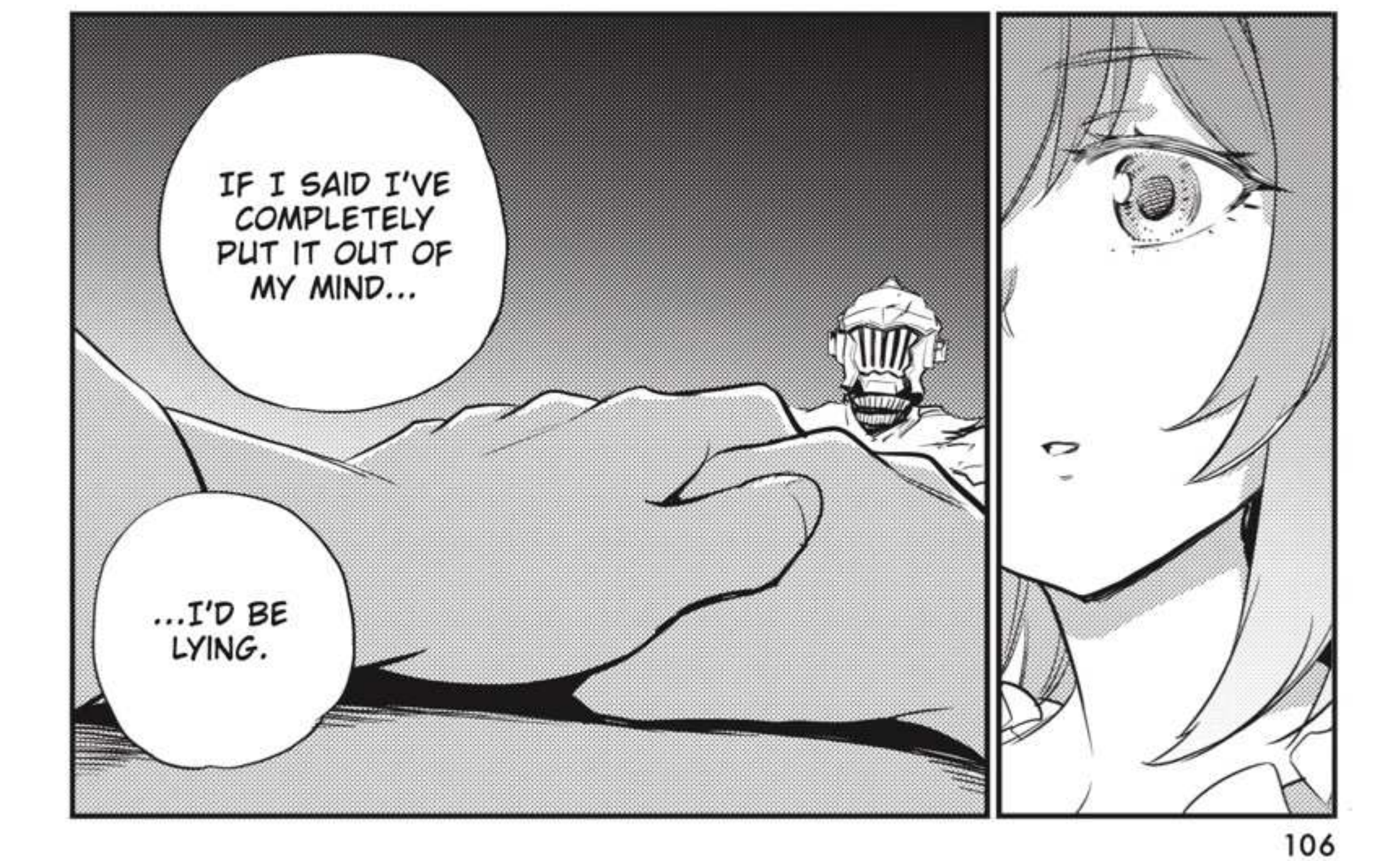
I THINK IT'S MORE LIKE YOU'RE... SAD. LONELY.

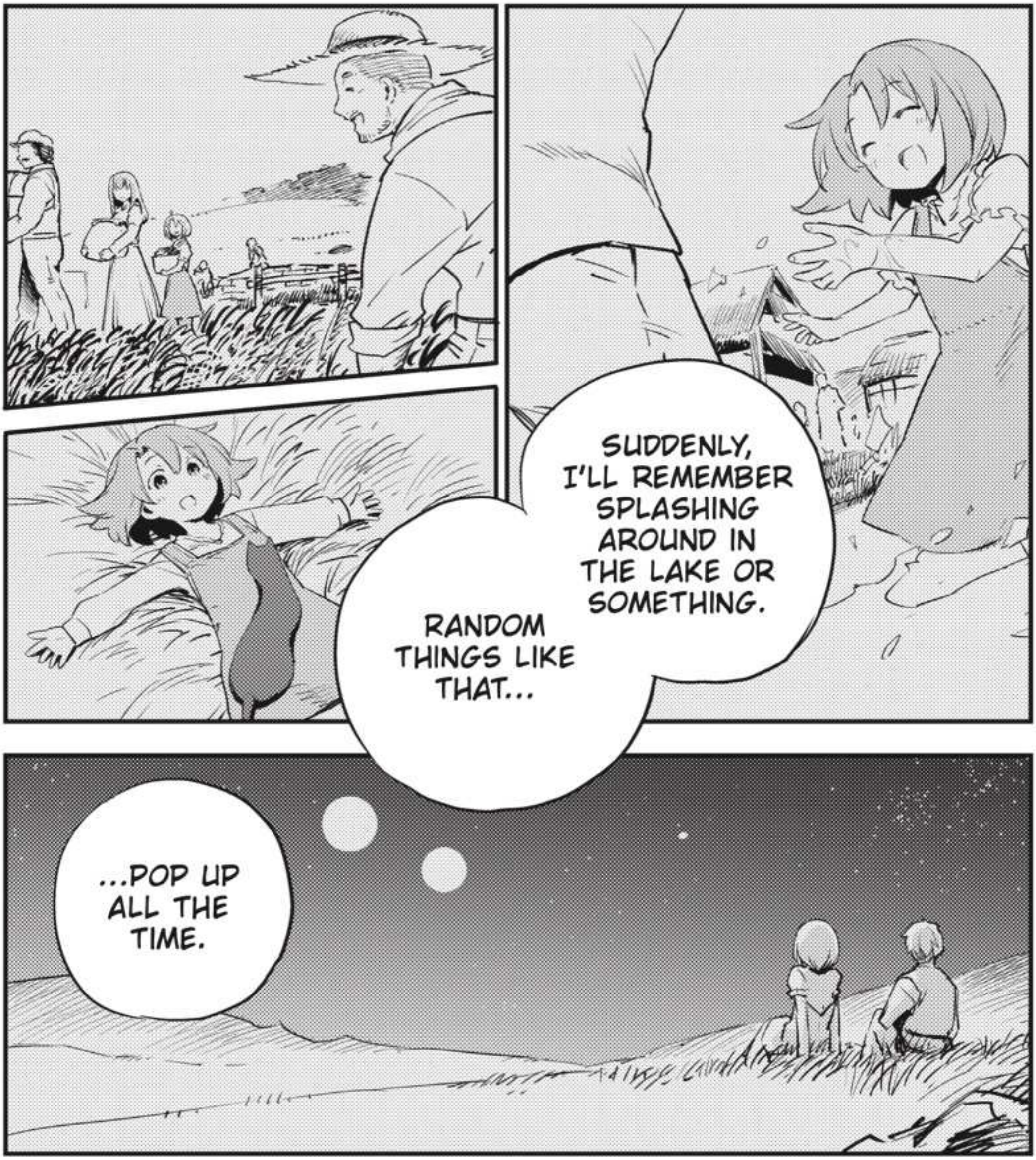
WELL, THAT MIGHT BE AN AWFULLY SIMPLE WAY OF PUTTING IT.



...YOU KNOW ME WELL.

...EVER THINK ABOUT IT?
DON'T YOU...
WELL, WE'VE BEEN TOGETHER FOR YEARS, HAVEN'T WE?


IF I SAID I'VE COMPLETELY PUT IT OUT OF MY MIND...
...I'D BE LYING.


SUDDENLY, I'LL REMEMBER SPLASHING AROUND IN THE LAKE OR SOMETHING.
RANDOM THINGS LIKE THAT...
...POP UP ALL THE TIME.

BUT I GUESS I FEEL LIKE... THERE'S NO GOING BACK.

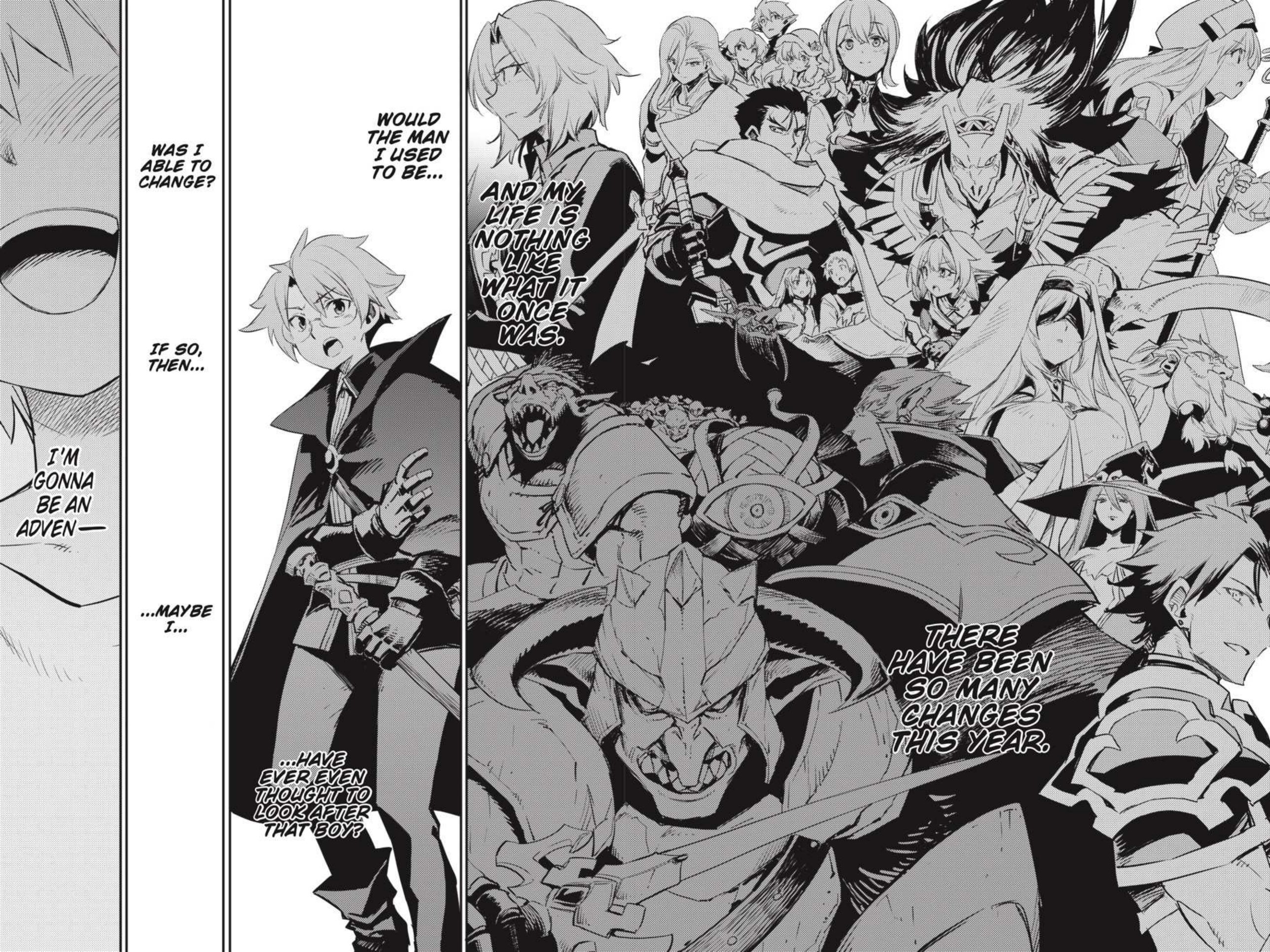
...IS THAT SO?
YES.
I DON'T KNOW WHETHER CHANGE IS GOOD OR BAD...
...BUT IT'S SOMETHING WE HAVE TO ACCEPT.
THAT'S JUST HOW THINGS ARE.
THE WORLD TURNS, AND OUR LIVES GO ON.
THE WIND BLOWS.
THE SUN RISES AND SETS.

EVER SINCE THEN... I SEE.

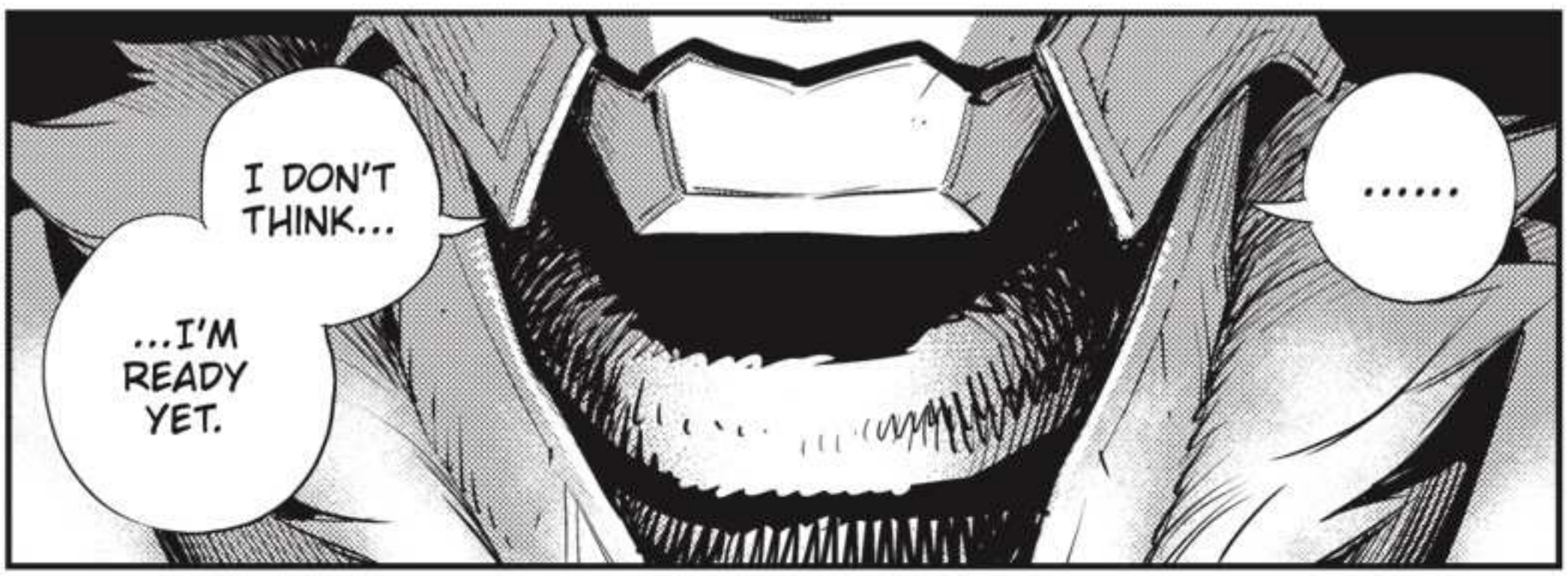
IT SURE IS.

I JUST KNOW IT.

I SEE.


I'M GONNA BE AN ADVEN—
WAS I ABLE TO CHANGE?
IF SO, THEN...
...MAYBE I...
WOULD THE MAN I USED TO BE...
...HAVE EVER EVEN THOUGHT TO LOOK AFTER THAT BOY?
AND MY LIFE IS NOTHING LIKE WHAT IT ONCE WAS.
THERE HAVE BEEN SO MANY CHANGES THIS YEAR.

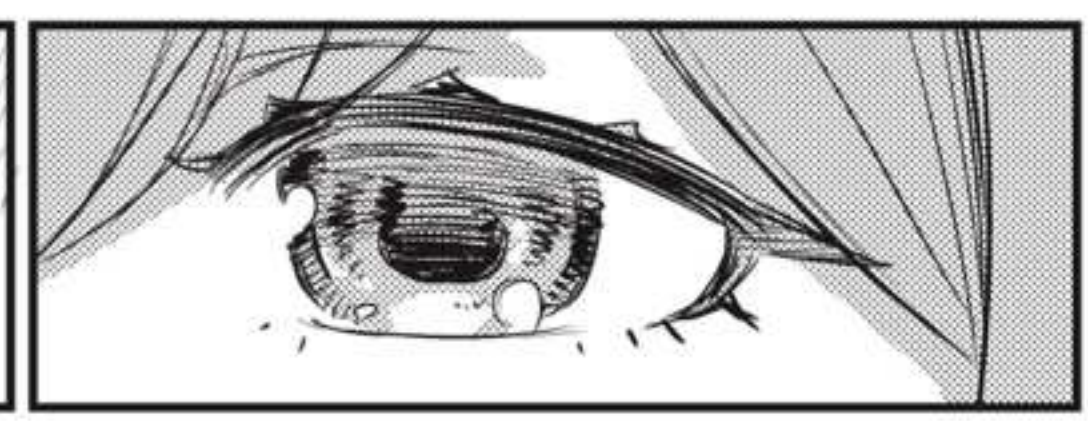
AND IF A GOBLIN HADN'T STABBED HER TO DEATH WITH A POISONED DAGGER, SHE'D STILL BE HERE!!



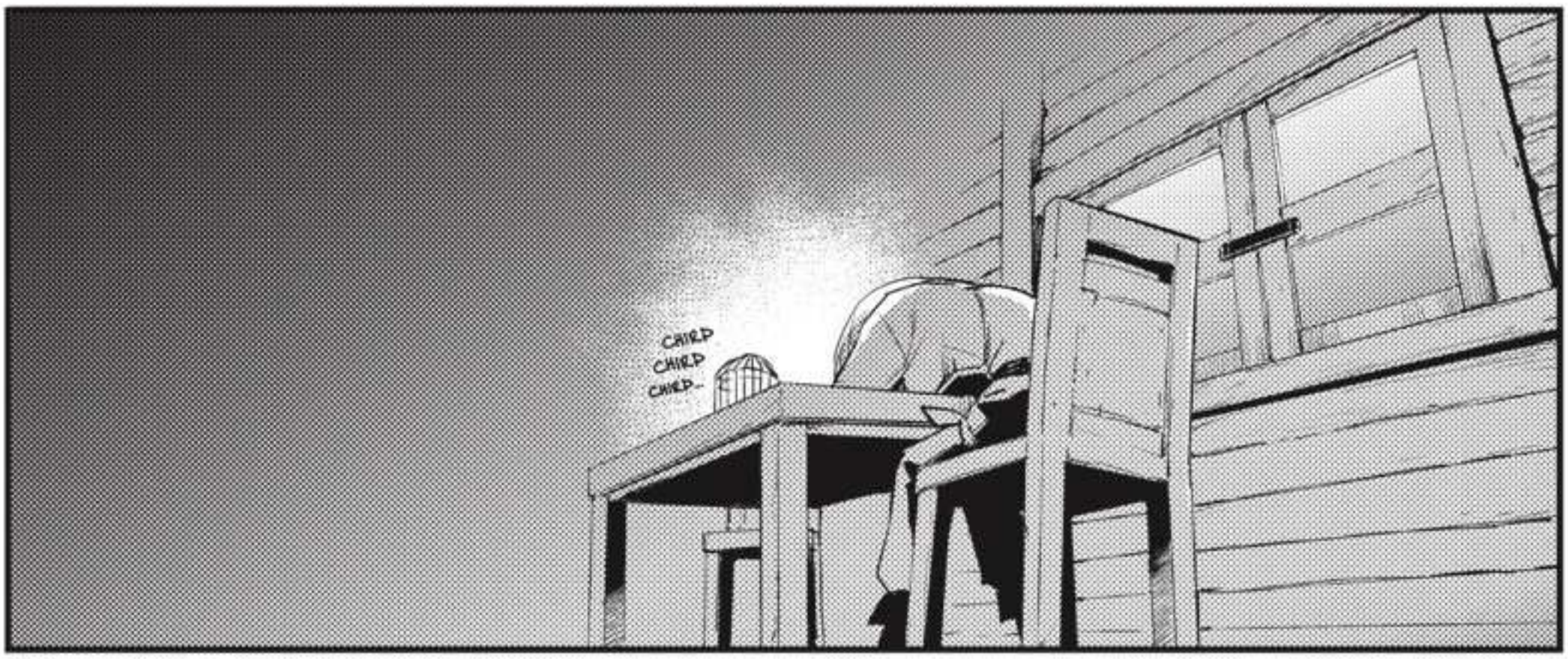
...AT LEAST, THAT'S WHAT I THINK.
THAT'S WHY I HAVE TO DO WHAT I CAN.

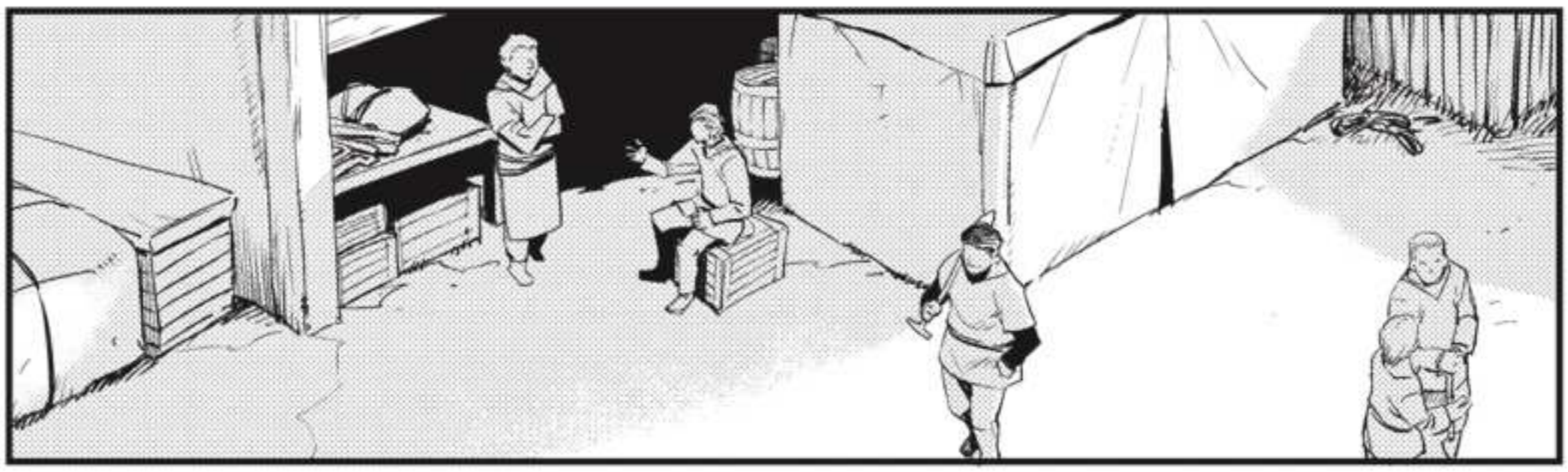
I HAVE NO PROOF, BUT I THINK THE GOBLINS ARE ON THE MOVE ONCE AGAIN.

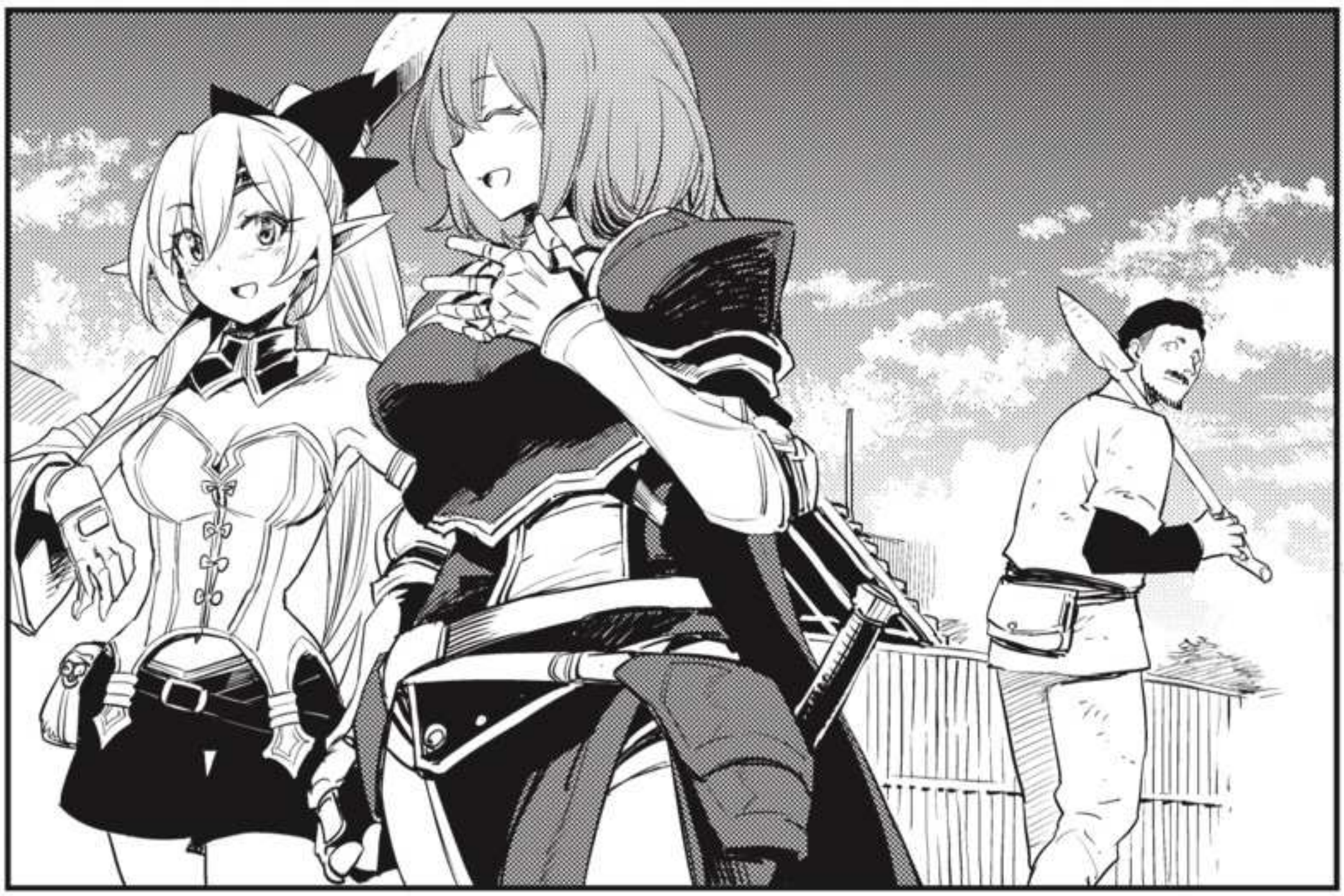
RIGHT...
YEAH... I KNOW.



BATAN
(SHUT)
I'LL BE...
...WAITING FOR YOU.
RIGHT.


CHIRP
CHIRP
CHIRP...





THE ONES WHO DRESS LIKE THAT AREN'T BAD EITHER... IT'S A REFRESHING CHANGE FROM ALL THOSE GAUDY PROSTITUTES SLATHERED IN MAKEUP AND PERFUME.

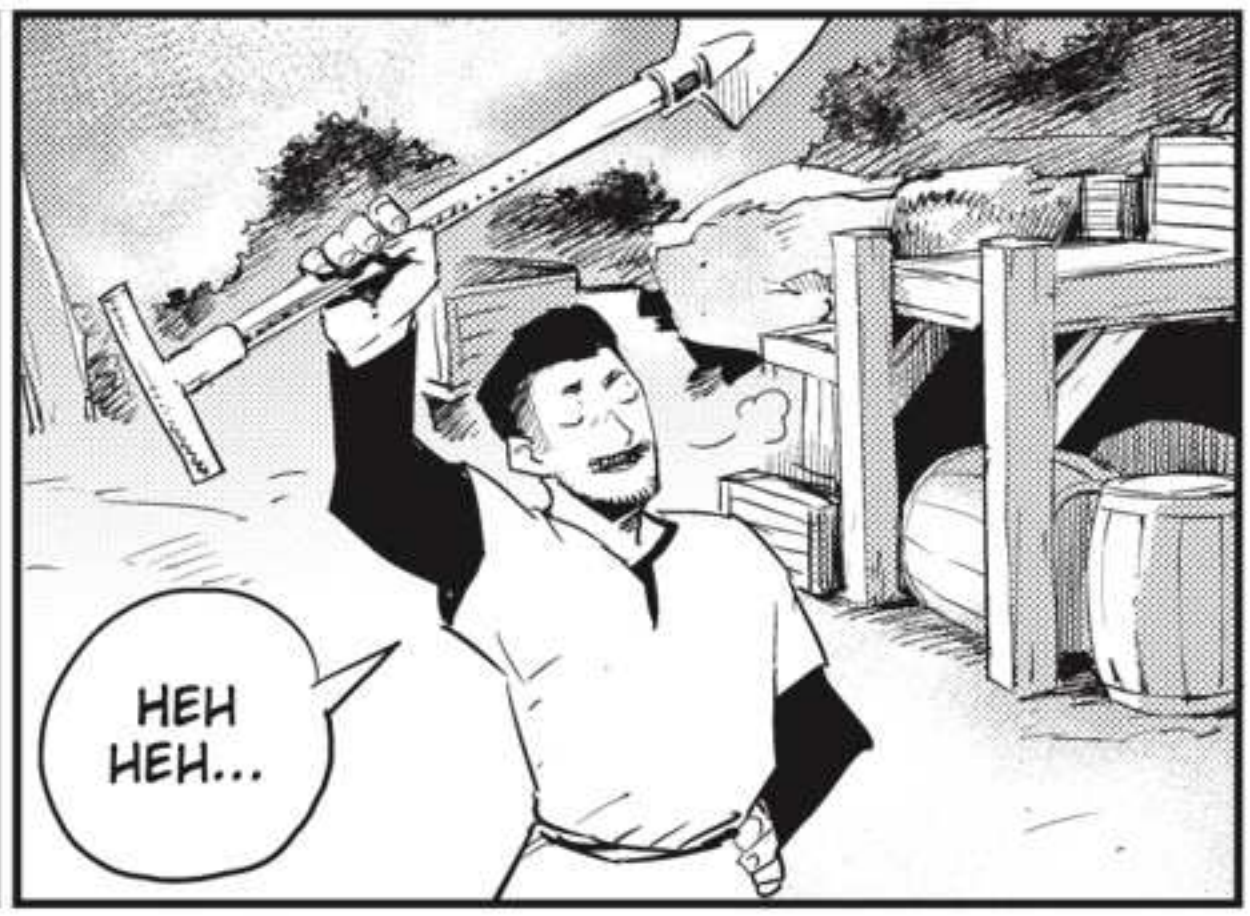
HOT DAMN! AIN'T NOTHIN' QUITE LIKE A WOMAN ADVENTURER.

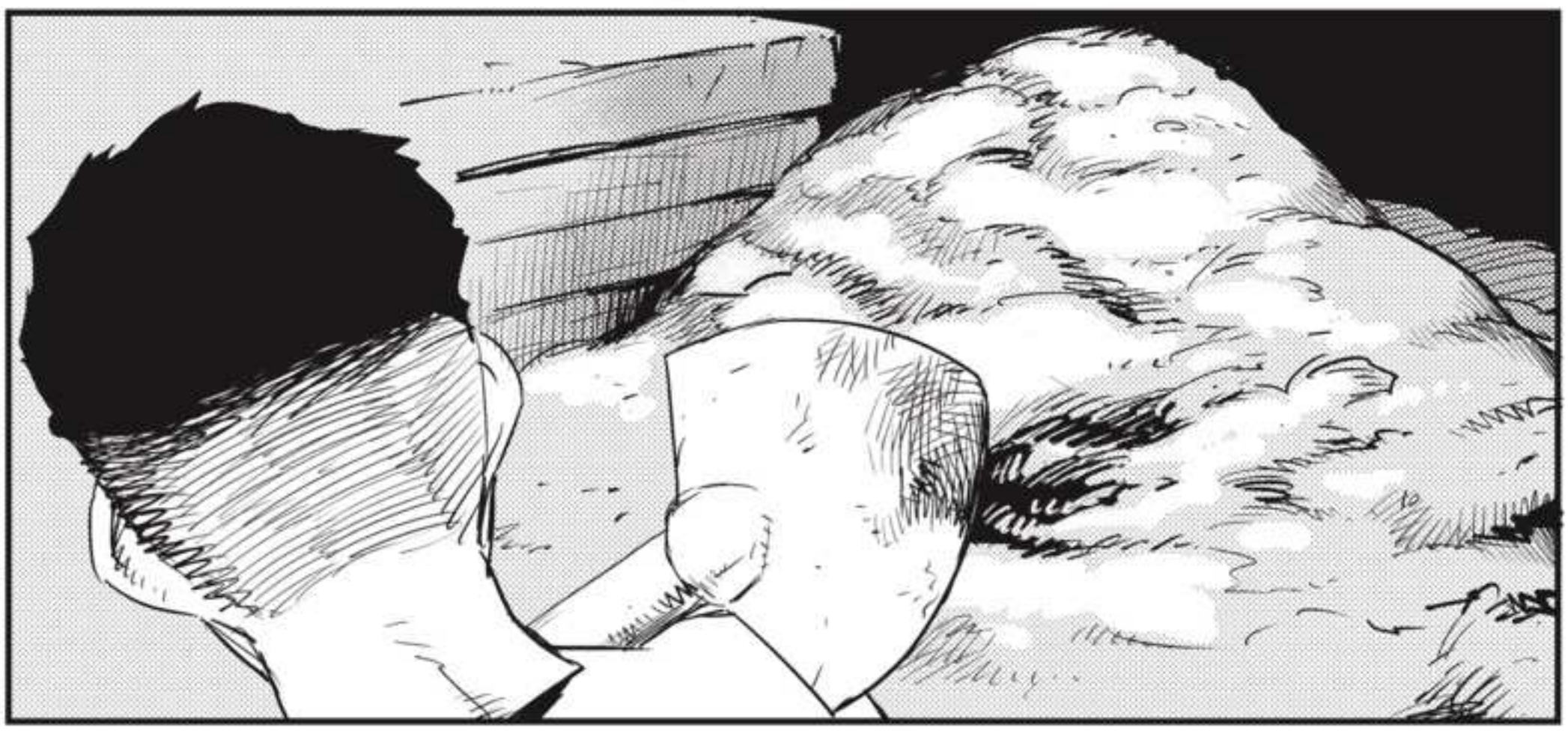
GUESS HACKING AND SLASHING REALLY PAYS THE BILLS.
LUCKY THEM.

ONWARD! TO ADVEN-TURE!

...I'D BE OUT SAVING VILLAGES AND EARNING THE GRATITUDE OF YOUNG LADIES LEFT AND RIGHT!
...AND MAYBE A SMOKIN' WITCH BY MY SIDE...
I MEAN, I DON'T GOTTA BE SOME LEGENDARY HERO.
IF I JUST HAD SOME DECENT EQUIPMENT...
...AND WHEN I FINALLY GOT SICK OF THE ADVENTURING LIFE, THE ONLY PROBLEM I'D HAVE LEFT WOULD BE CHOOSING WHICH GIRL I WANTED TO SETTLE DOWN AND START A FAMILY WITH...
I'D GET INTO ALL SORTS OF SCRAPES BUT OVERCOME THEM ALL...

AS IF!


HEH HEH...



.....

SOMEONE'S BEEN SLACKING OFF!
WHAT DO WE HAVE HERE?
PRETTY DAMN SURE THEY TOLD US THERE'S A DESIGNATED SPOT WE HAVE TO DUMP THE DIRT...

MOZO (SNIFFLE)
ぢ〜〜

A GOBLIN!?

IF YOU WANT A JOB DONE RIGHT...

!?

HA HA!

HOW'D YA LIKE THAT?

SERVES YOU RIGHT!

EW...

YA LITTLE—!

GOSHA (CRUSH)

HEH! NO WAY I'M CHECKING THAT OUT.

THAT'S A JOB FOR AN ADVEN-TURER!

LOOK AT THAT HOLE...

DON'T TELL ME IT DUG ITS WAY HERE?

WHERE'D IT COME FROM, THOUGH...?

ZU (SHNK)

ズ…

ドゴ…

DO (SLAM)

!

?

ADVENTURERS MUST OFTEN WORK AT NIGHT, AND RUINS AND CAVES ARE DIM NO MATTER THE HOUR.

TONIGHT, I WILL TEACH YOU EIGHT WAYS TO KILL A GOBLIN SILEN—
SO IT'S HELPFUL TO PRACTICE AT NIGHT AND GET USED TO HAVING ONLY THE LIGHT OF THE TWIN MOONS AND THE STARS TO SEE BY.

AAAAH!

CHAPTER 70

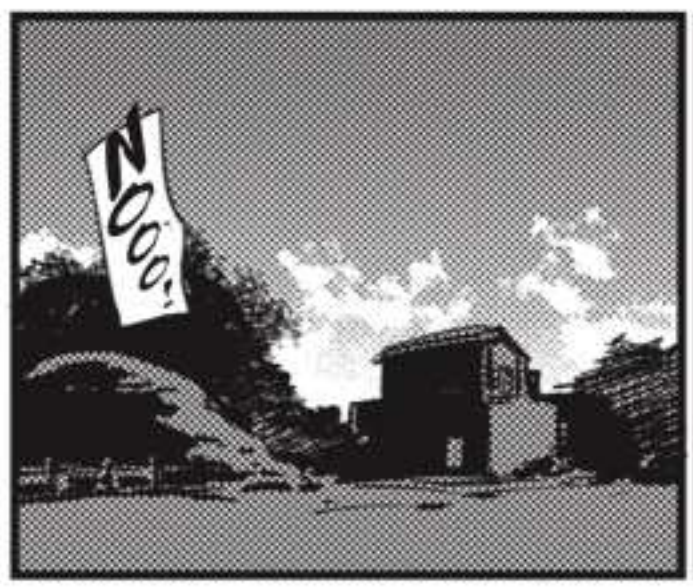
B-BUT WHY ...?

THAT... WAS A SCREAM, RIGHT?

WH-WHAT WAS THAT ...!?

DON'T PANIC.

H-HEY! SOMETHING BAD'S GOING ON OUT THERE, RIGHT...!?



HE SAID TO HAVE OUR WEAPONS READY...

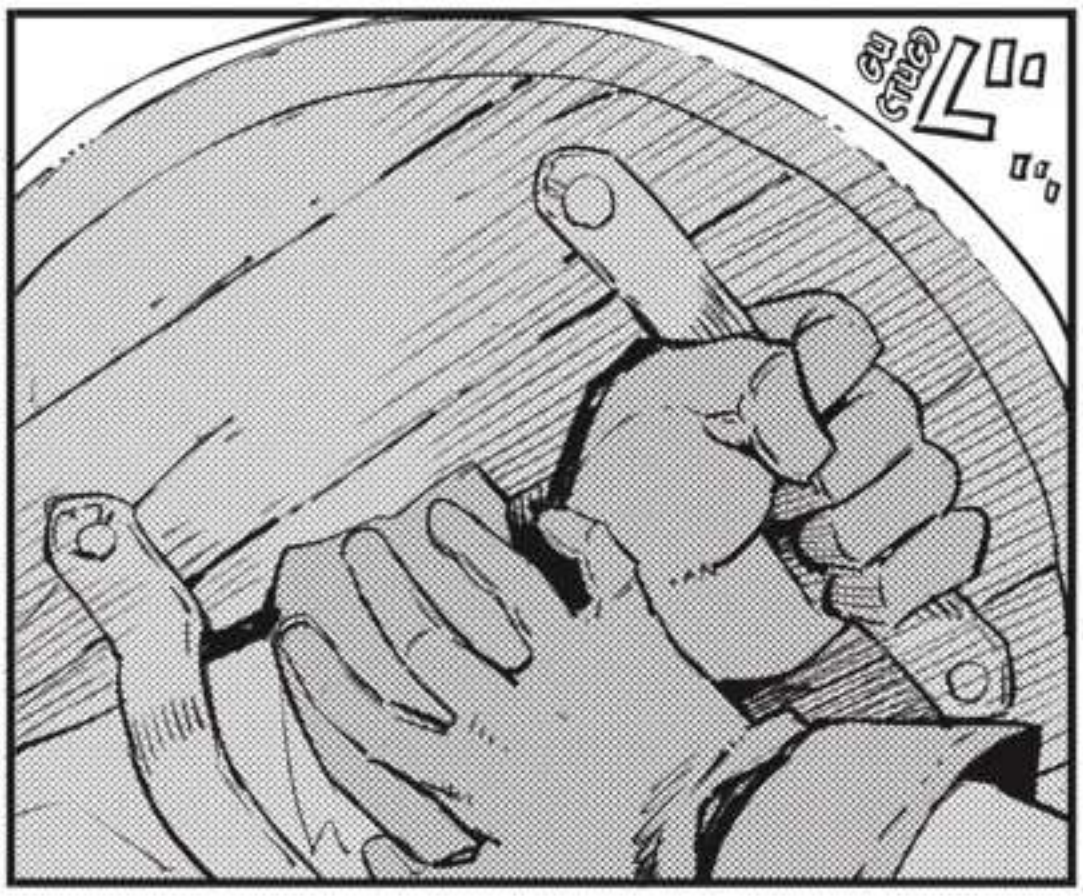
HUH...? WAIT... WHAT'S HAPPENING?

Y- YEAH, BUT...

I DON'T KNOW...

THIS... ISN'T A DRILL, IS IT?

GOT IT.



PIRI (TINGLE)

I DON'T EVEN KNOW WHETHER I'M SCARED OR NOT!

PIRI

PIRI

OOOH... I HATE THIIIS!

...
...

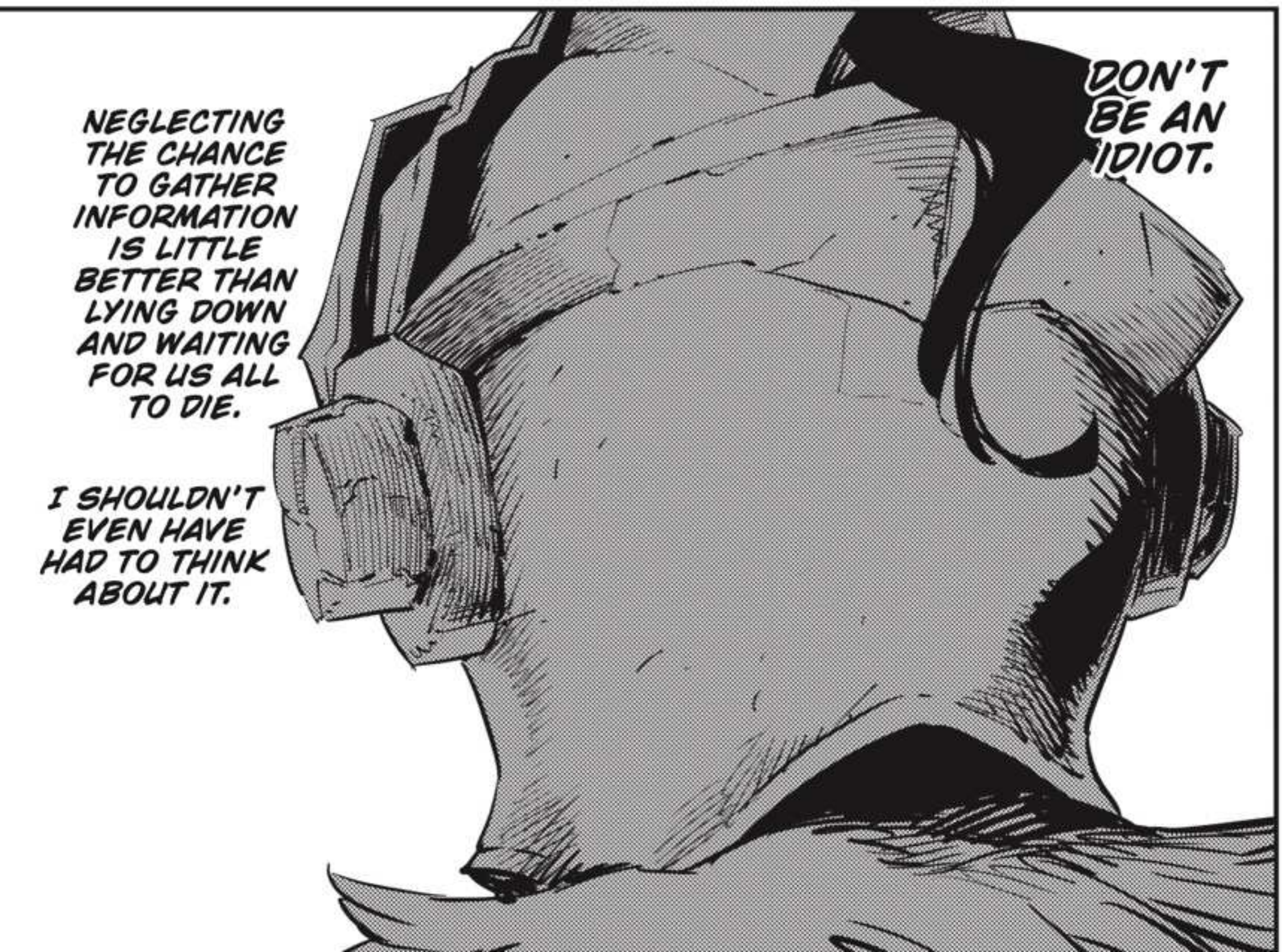
REMEMBER TO KEEP AN EYE ON YOUR SURROUND-INGS!
ENEMIES WON'T ALWAYS ATTACK FROM STRAIGHT AHEAD!

YOU THERE, GET YOUR SHIELD UP! BE READY TO PROTECT THE PEOPLE BESIDE AND BEHIND YOU!

OUR SPELL CASTERS ARE OUR LIFELINE!
AND KEEP THE BACK ROW SAFE AT ALL COSTS!

OR STAY HERE...
...SO I CAN KEEP PROTECTING THEM?
WHAT SHOULD I DO?
LEAVE THE ROOKIES AND GO FIND OUT WHAT'S HAPPENING?

I CAN'T LEAVE THEM ALO—
.....


NEGLECTING THE CHANCE TO GATHER INFORMATION IS LITTLE BETTER THAN LYING DOWN AND WAITING FOR US ALL TO DIE.
I SHOULDN'T EVEN HAVE HAD TO THINK ABOUT IT.
DON'T BE AN IDIOT.

BECAUSE IT WILL MEAN I AM DEAD...

...OR AT LEAST BADLY INJURED.

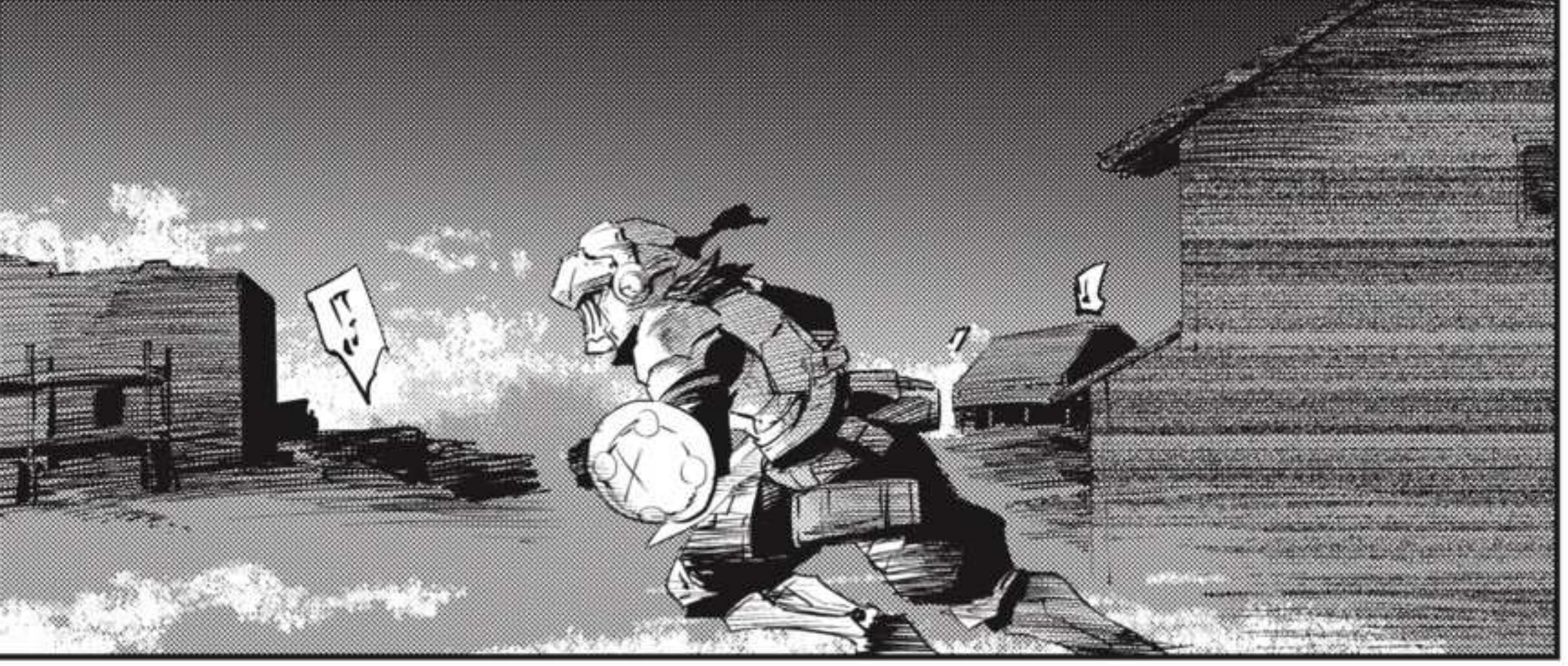
IF I'M NOT BACK IN FIFTEEN MINUTES, ACT ON YOUR OWN.

HOLD HERE FOR NOW.

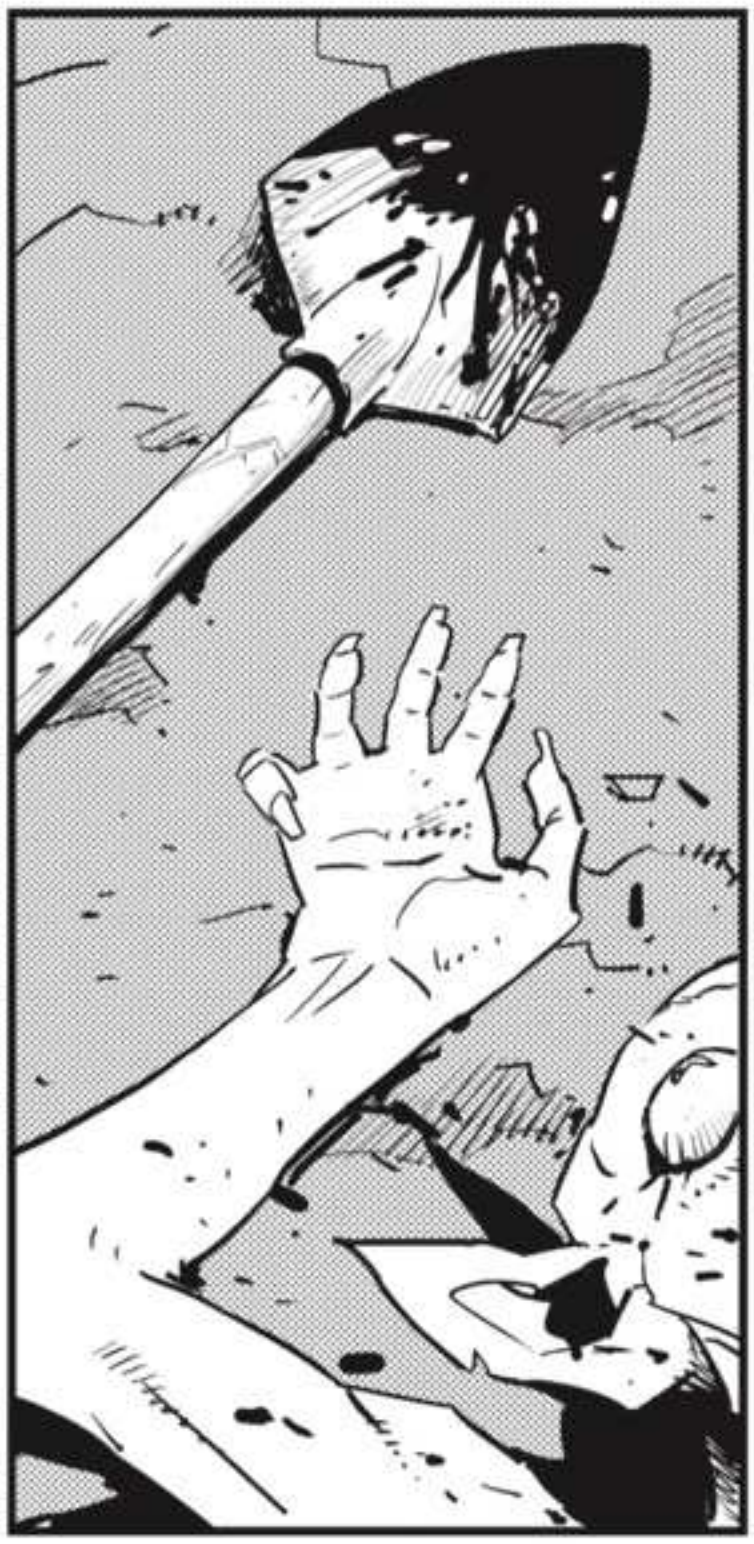
ON OUR OWN? BUT—

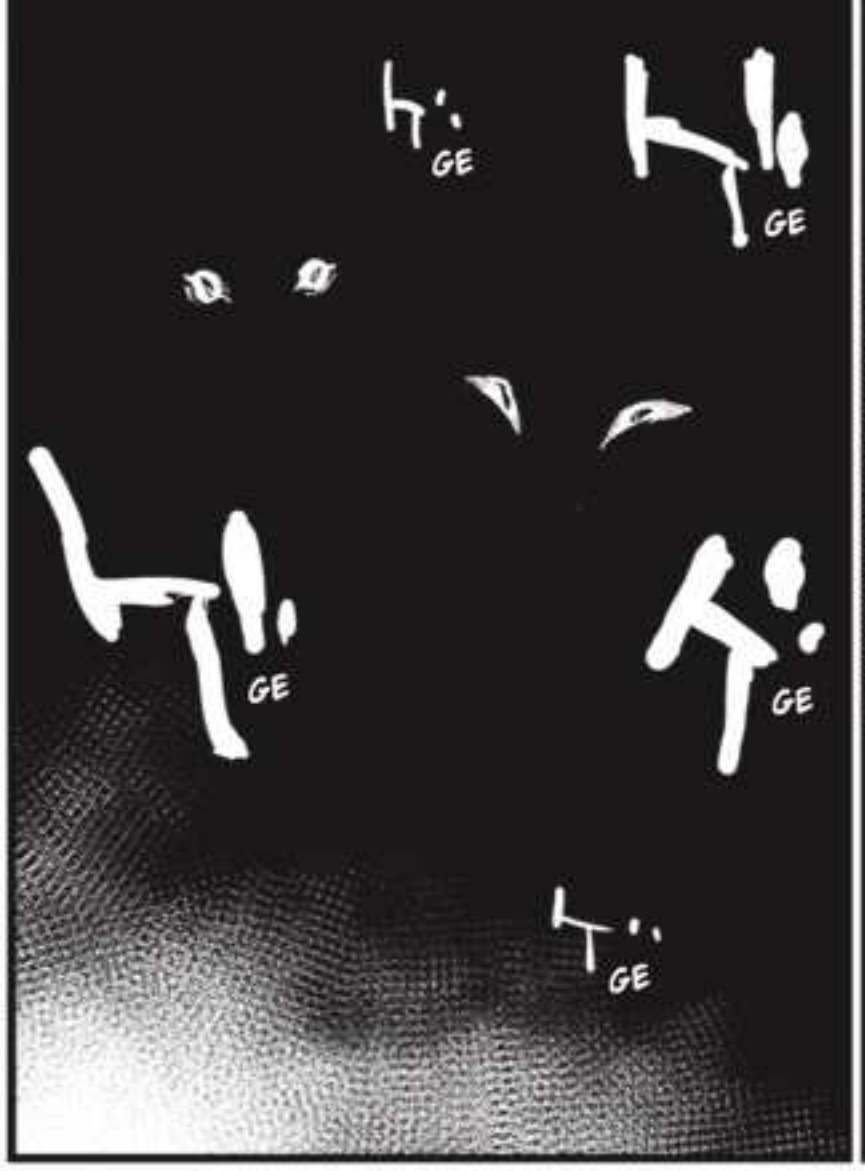
GETTING BACK TO TOWN WOULD BE BEST, BUT IF THAT DOESN'T SEEM POSSIBLE, JUST HOLD OUT UNTIL MORNING.

ALL RIGHT... WE WILL!!



DO (THOCK)




GE
GE
GE
GE
GE

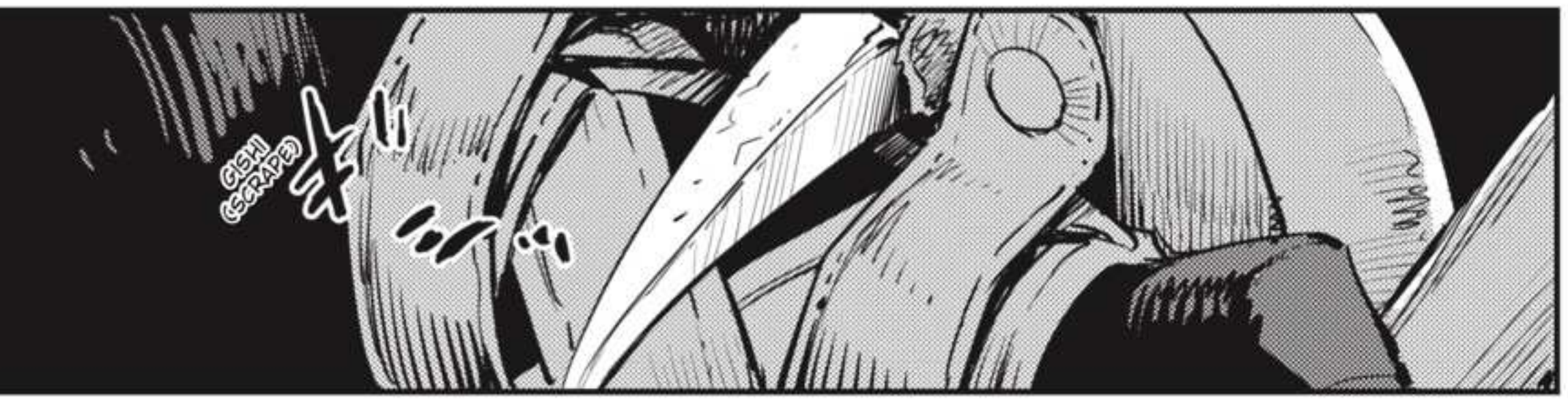
GE
(CACKLE)
GE

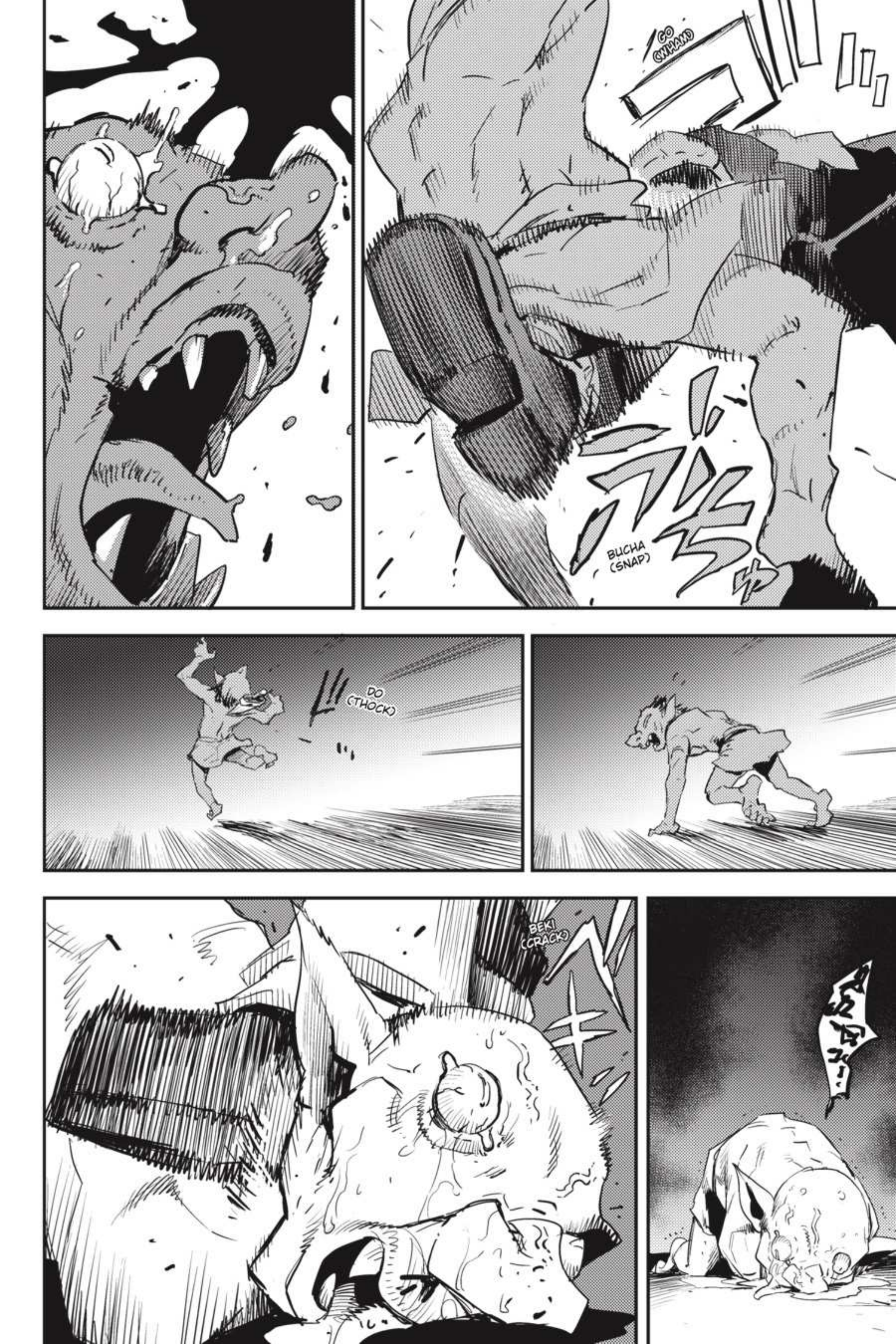
PIKU
PIKU
(TWITCH)

GAKO (CLANG)

BUN (SWIPE)

GATSUN (BASH)




GO (WHAM)
BUCHA (SNAP)
DO (THOCK)
BEKI (CRACK)

THAT MAKES...

...THREE.

GAKIN (CLINK)

PIKU

PIKU (TWITCH)

GOKI (SHCK)

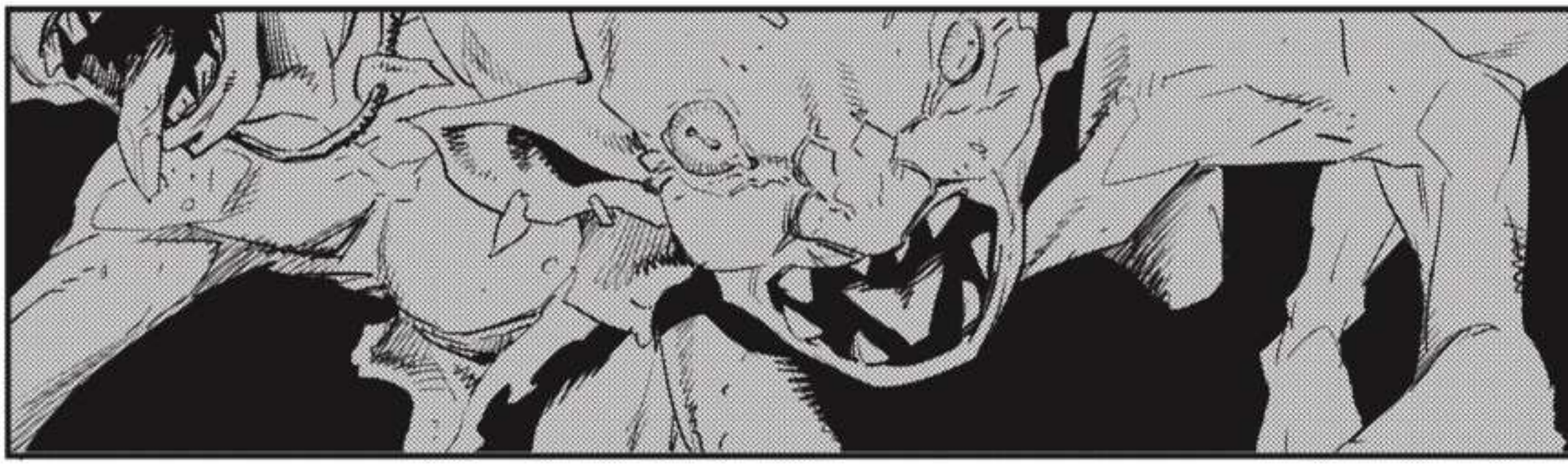
...TO ATTACK THIS PLACE SO BADLY?

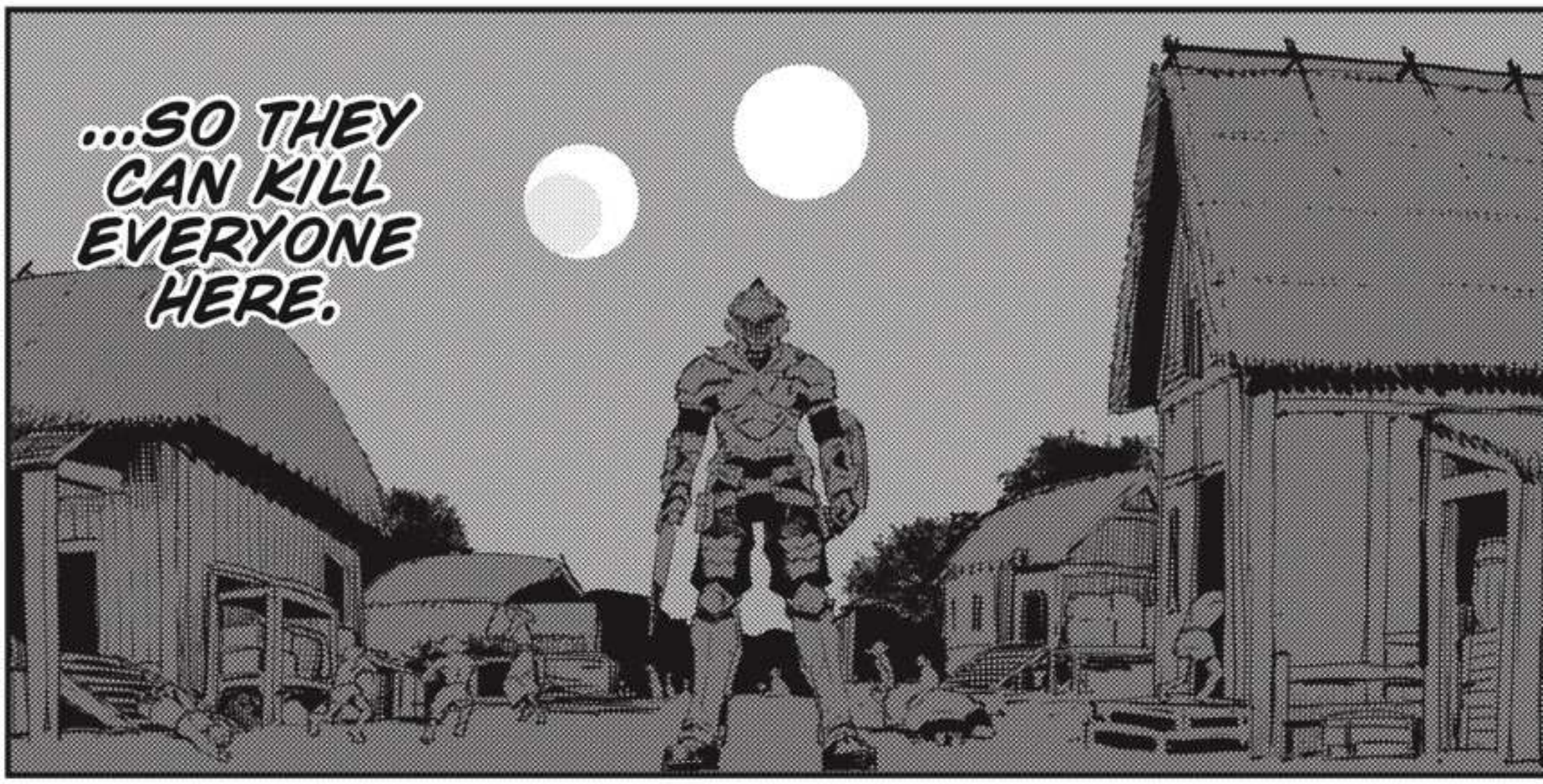
WHY DO THEY WANT...

THEY MUST HAVE DUG A TUNNEL TO THE TRAINING CENTER TO LAUNCH THIS ASSAULT.

FRESH EARTH...

PROBABLY JUST...





BUT I DON'T NEED TO RUN.

THERE'S NO RUNNING FROM WHAT HAPPENED HERE.

...AM GOBLIN SLAYER.

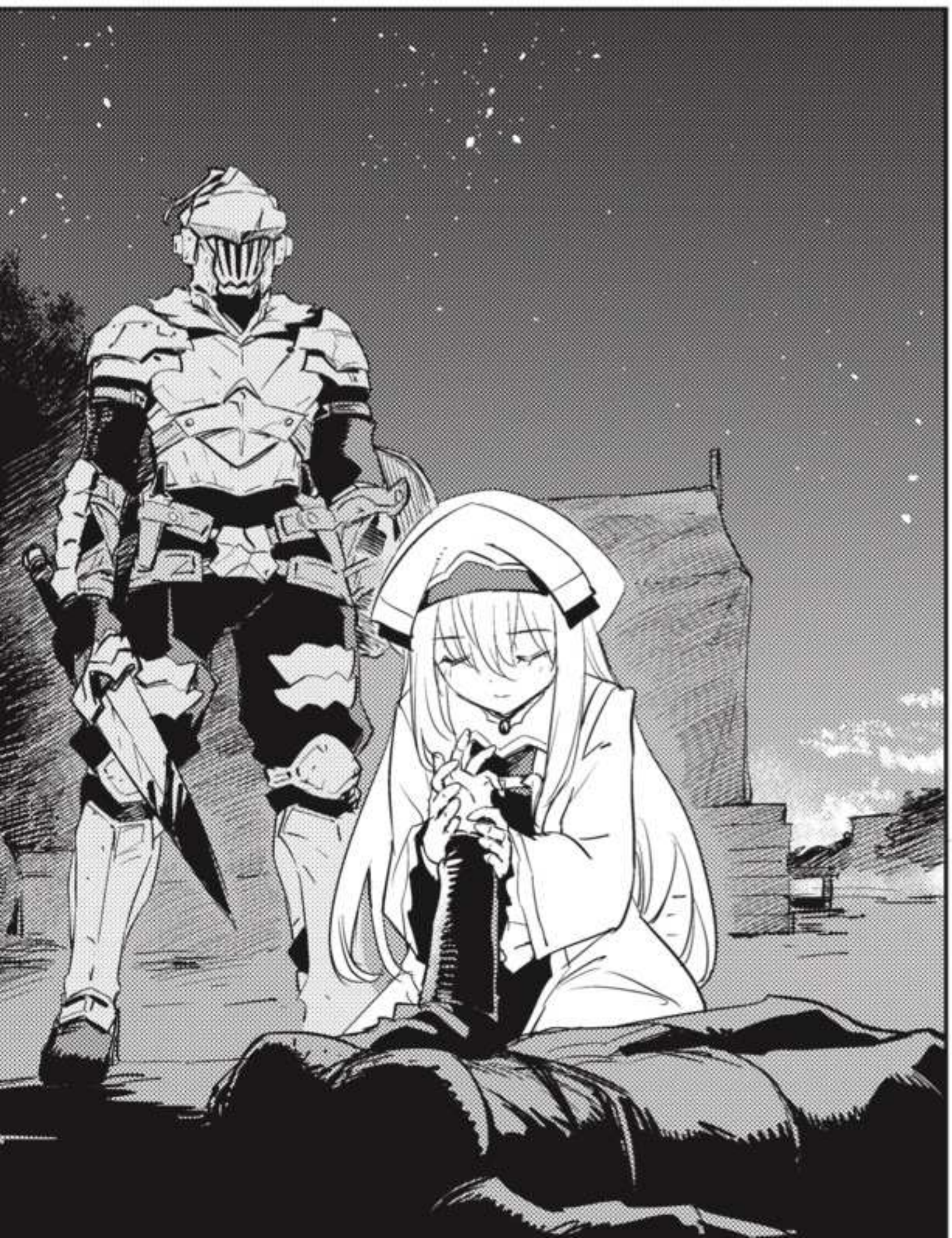
I...

HELLO? IS SOMEONE THERE...!?

OH! GOBLIN SLAYER, SIR!

I WAS ON FIRST AID DUTY AGAIN TODAY...

...AND USED UP ALL MY MIRACLES, SO I WAS RESTING IN MY ROOM WHEN...



YES.

BIRI (FLICK)

GOBLINS... RIGHT?

...I JUST FINISHED RESTING, SO I CAN ASK FOR MY USUAL THREE NOW.

DO YOU HAVE ANY MIRACLES LEFT?

I THINK SO...

...OUR FRIENDS. ARE THEY HERE TOO?

WHAT ABOUT OUR...

ALL RIGHT.

...I WILL.

WILL YOU COME WITH ME?

LET'S GO KILL ALL THE GOBLINS.

WE SHOULD GET GOING.

YES.

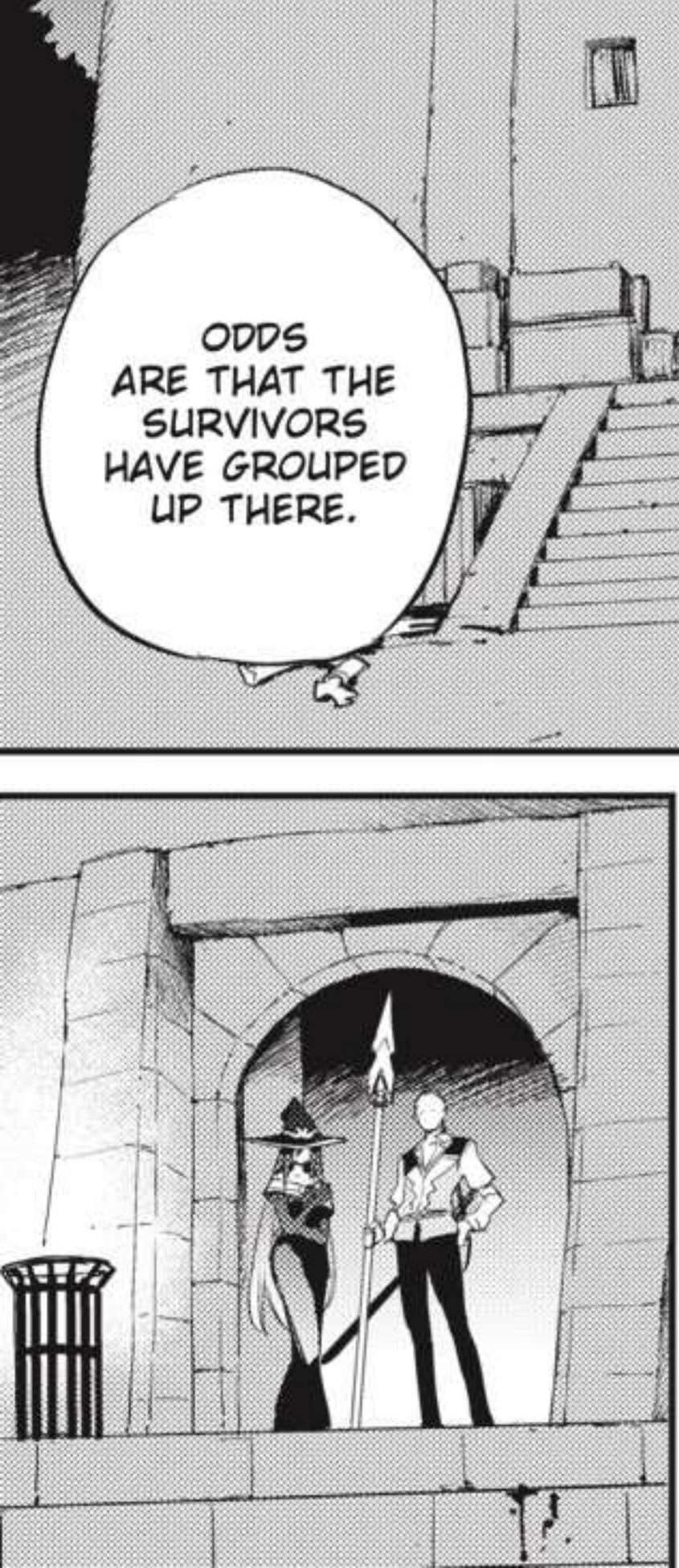
WHERE TO FIRST, GOBLIN SLAYER?

THE TRAINING GROUND'S ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDING.

IT'S STILL UNDER CONSTRUCTION, BUT IT'S RIGHT IN THE CENTER OF TOWN.

CHAPTER 71

ODDS ARE THAT THE SURVIVORS HAVE GROUPED UP THERE.



LOOKS LIKE YOU'RE STILL IN ONE PIECE!

I AM.

THE ADVENTURERS SENT TO STUDY WITH ME ARE SAFE AS WELL.

HEY, LOOK!

IF IT ISN'T GOBLIN SLAYER!

I'M GLAD YOU'RE BOTH SAFE...

BEFORE... IT...

...GOT TOO...

...DARK.

GOOD. IT'S DUSK NOW, SO MOST OF THE OTHER ROOKIES SHOULD'VE GONE HOME ALREADY.

INDEED, WE ARE. THOUGH AS MUCH AS I TRY TO LIVE PREPARED FOR COMBAT AT ANY MOMENT, I DID NOT EXPECT TO FIND A REAL BATTLE ON A MOCK BATTLEFIELD.

AND WE'RE HERE TOO!

YOU SAID IT! HAD TO LEAVE MY DINNER UNEATEN ON THE TABLE...

EVERY-ONE!

IT'S OKAY. I'M ALL RIGHT.

WHAT ABOUT YOU? YOU'RE NOT HURT, ARE YOU?

IT DIDN'T END UP LIKE THAT TIME...

PHEW! THEN WE'RE ALL SAFE...!

THE GOBLINS DIDN'T DO ANYTHING AWFUL TO YOU, DID THEY?

WE PATCHED UP MOST OF THE HOLES, BUT WE CAN'T EXPECT IT TO HOLD UP FOR LONG.
WE CAN TAKE SHELTER HERE, BUT AN UNFINISHED BUILDING WILL BE HARD TO DEFEND.
YEAH.
WE CAN ASSUME THE ATTACK ENCOMPASSES THE ENTIRE TRAINING GROUND.
THE SITUATION IS NOT GOOD.
HEY! STILL KICKING, GOBLIN SLAYER?
TWO... MAYBE THREE AT MOST.
WE NEED MORE FIGHTERS.
DO YOU HAVE ANY CAPABLE ROOKIES?

YEAH. HAPPENED WHILE I WAS OUT SCOUTING.

YOU'VE KILLED A FEW ALREADY.

GACHA (CLANK)

WE'LL BE AT A DISADVANTAGE IF WE HAVE TO FIGHT THEM OUTSIDE WHERE WE CAN'T SEE.

LITTLE BASTARDS JUST LOVE TO HIDE IN THE DARK AND JUMP OUT AT YOU.

THE BRATS ARE ALL KEEPING HER COMPANY BACK AT THE INN.

HEY, SHE'S STILL A WOMAN. SHE'S NOT, UH, UP TO ADVENTURING ON CERTAIN DAYS.

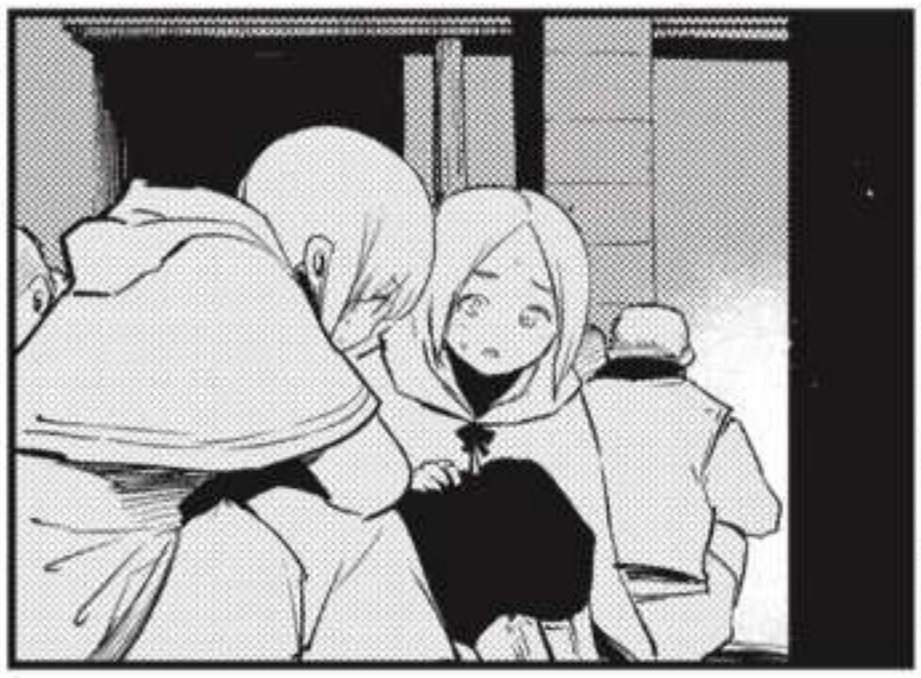
YOU'RE ALONE TODAY?

IN ANY CASE...

IF IT KEPT THEM OUT OF THIS, SO MUCH THE BETTER.

A LEADER'S GOTTA THINK ABOUT HIS TEAM'S HEALTH, YOU KNOW.

...THINGS ARE BOUND TO GET INTERESTING WITH THE FRONTIER'S THREE MOST WHATEVERS TOGETHER IN ONE SPOT.



YES.

MY ROOKIES ARE HOLDING POSITION IN THE SQUARE.

WE'LL NEED TO SEND A MESSENGER TO THEM, THEN.

BE THAT... AS IT MAY...

...I THINK... OUR BEST CHANCE...

...IS TO... STICK...

YES?

...TOGETHER.

I'LL GO!

I'M THE FASTEST RUNNER HERE!

GOTTA GET WORD TO THEM AND ANY OTHER SURVIVORS SO WE CAN ALL GROUP UP HERE.

YOU CAN COUNT ON ME!

ALL RIGHT, GET ON IT.

MAYBE A FEW OF THE NOVICES WILL BE ABLE TO HANDLE THEMSELVES AS WELL.

GOBLIN SLAYER AND HIS PARTY MAKE FIVE. THEN THERE'S SPEARMAN, WITCH, AND ME.

MOST LIKELY...

...ANOTHER GOBLIN.

OKAY, GOBLIN SLAYER. WE'RE DEALING WITH GOBLINS HERE. WHO DO YOU THINK'S LEADING THEM?

BECAUSE IF ANYONE OTHER THAN A GOBLIN WERE IN CHARGE, THE GOBLINS WOULD BE ACTING AS CANNON FODDER, NOT THE MAIN FORCE.

WHAT MAKES YOU THINK THAT?

MAYBE A SOMEWHAT CLEVER SHAMAN...

COULD BE AN ADVANCED VARIETY, BUT IT'S UNLIKELY A NEW LORD HAS BEEN BORN ALREADY.

SO WHILE WE HAVE TO CLEAN UP THE ONES HERE, WHAT WE REALLY NEED IS TO TAKE OUT THEIR NEST.

BUT WHERE ARE THEY COMING FROM...?

...IS SOMETHING ONLY A GOBLIN WOULD THINK OF.

AND HAVING GOBLINS TUNNEL INTO THE TRAINING GROUND TO LAUNCH THIS ATTACK...

IN WHICH CASE, I DARESAY THE MOST PRUDENT OPTION IS TO FIND ONE AND TRACE IT BACK TO ITS SOURCE.

THEY SEEM TO BE COMING FROM EVERY DIRECTION.

I FIND IT HARD TO BELIEVE THERE WOULD BE ONLY ONE TUNNEL EXIT.

IF I HAD TO GUESS...

...I'D SAY THEY'RE PROBABLY ALL CONNECTED ANYWAY.

QUESTION—

HOW DO WE KNOW WHICH IS THE MAIN ROUTE?

SURE.

THAT SETTLES IT, THEN. WE'LL ENTER FROM THE NEAREST ONE. YOU GOOD WITH THAT, GOBLIN SLAYER?

BET THEY JUST DUG ONE TUNNEL MOST OF THE WAY, THEN SPLIT OFF A BUNCHA EXITS JUST BEFORE THE ATTACK.

TAKE THEM... WITH US?

DO WE... LEAVE THEM?

OR... EVACUATE THEM?

...THE ONLY ONES.

THESE CAN'T BE...

... THEN.

...THE CHILDREN ...

...IS...

THE REAL ISSUE...

SCREW YOU.

I MEAN, I WAS LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING YOU TRY TO SWING THAT THING IN A TUNNEL, BUT...

YOU GOT IT.

VERY WELL.

LEAVE THE KIDS TO ME.

I'LL LET YOU TWO HANDLE THE HOLE.

BUT YEAH, I CAN DO MORE GOOD UP TOP THAN BELOW.

THEY CAN SEE SO MUCH I CAN'T THANKS TO EXPERIENCE I DON'T HAVE.

AMAZING... THEY CAME UP WITH THAT PLAN IN NO TIME...

I'M HARDLY FIT TO OPEN MY MOUTH AT A MOMENT LIKE THIS.

...ANXIETY?

BUT THEN...

...WHY DO I HAVE THIS SENSE OF...

TELLING ME THAT I CAN'T JUST LET THEM LEAVE.

THAT I HAVE TO SPEAK UP.

BUT...

LIKE A WARNING BELL...

...RINGING IN MY EARS.

...WHAT AM I SUPPOSED TO SAY?

UH—

.....

U-UM ...!
GOBLINS?
WHAT IS IT?

YEAH.
AS SOON AS IT STARTED GETTING DARK, ALL OF THEM HEADED BACK EXCEPT FOR THE KIDS WHO WANTED TO PRACTICE NIGHT FIGHTING.
TH—
THE OTHER ROOKIES HAVE ALREADY GONE HOME FOR THE NIGHT, YES?

WHAT ARE YOU GETTING AT?

SO... WHERE MIGHT THEY BE BY NOW, THEN?

I'M PROBABLY WRONG...

I CAN'T BOTHER THEM NOW...

IT WAS JUST A PASSING THOUGHT I HAD.

NO, I'M SURE IT'S NOTHING AFTER ALL.

UM!

ER...

JUST TELL US.

WHAT ...!?

...I THINK THAT THE GOBLINS...

...MIGHT REALLY BE AFTER...THE ROOKIES WHO ARE ON THEIR WAY HOME.

EVEN I KNOW THAT!

BECAUSE HE TAUGHT ME SO.

DON'T YOU THINK THERE'S SOMETHING WRONG HERE!? GOBLINS ARE COWARDLY, SCHEMING CREATURES!

...SOMEWHERE THIS FULL OF STRONG ADVENTURERS IS THE LAST PLACE I WOULD WANT TO ATTACK.

SO IF I WERE A GOBLIN...

AND ANOTHER THING—

NOTHING MAKES FOR A BETTER DISTRACTION THAN AN ARMY.

AND...

...I HAVE AN IDEA...

SHE'S RIGHT. I OVERLOOKED THAT.

...SO WE'RE NOT THEIR REAL TARGET.

ME AND MY FRIENDS— UM, TWO WARRIORS, A CLERIC, AND A WIZARD.

HAVING THEM AND ME, ANOTHER CLERIC, WOULD DO A LOT TO TIP THE ODDS IN THE ROOKIES' FAVOR!

PLEASE, LET ME... LET US GO SAVE THEM!

I WANT TO SAVE THEM!

LET US GO SAVE THEM!

I'VE GOT NO IDEA WHAT THE GIRL'S CAPABLE OF. I ABSTAIN.

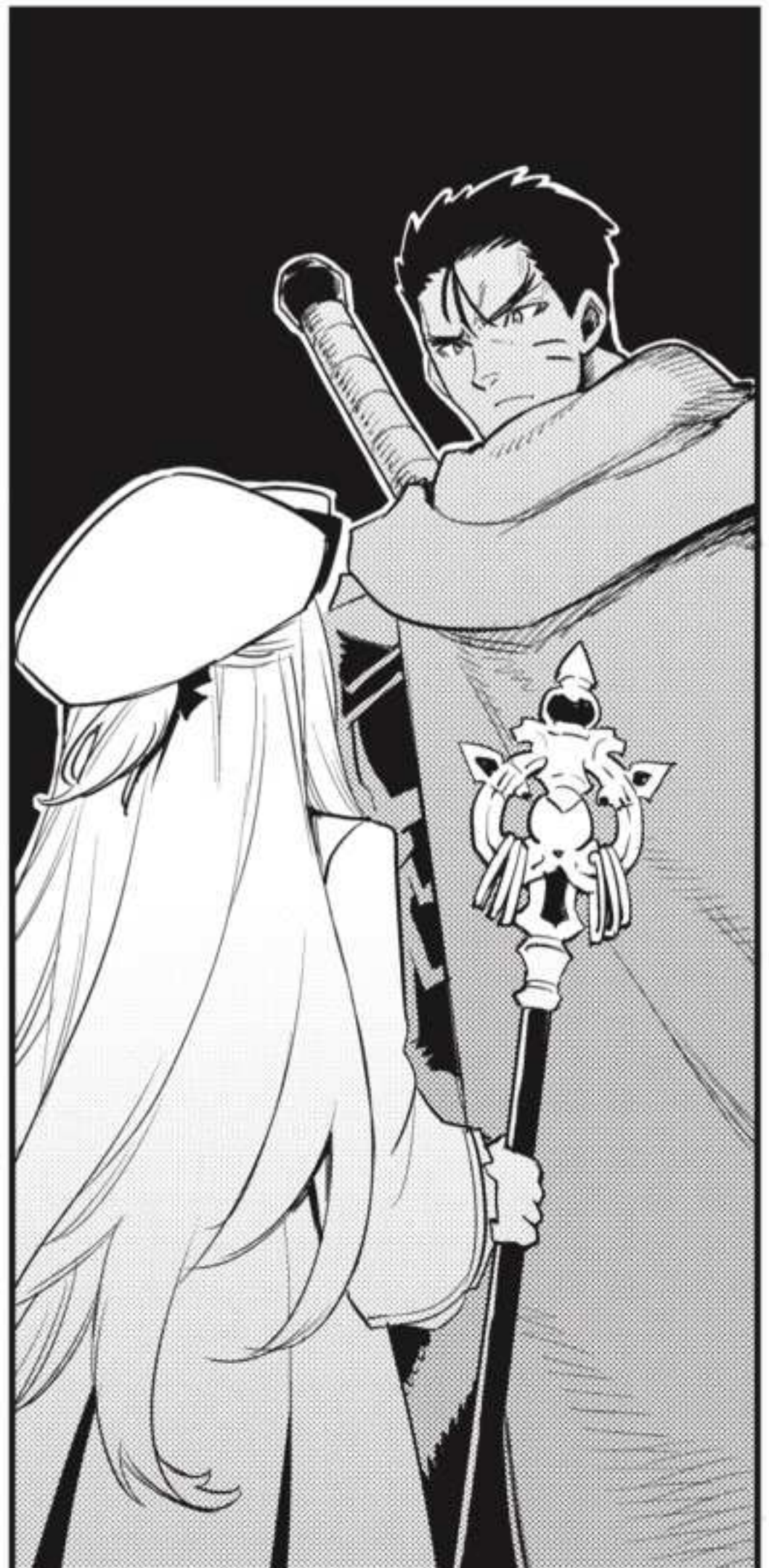
...FAIR POINT.

TIME...

...IS SHORT.

IS...

...IT NOT?



IT IS TRUE THAT WE MUST STRIKE AT THE HEART OF THE ENEMY...

...BUT NOT AT THE COST OF ABANDONING THE NOVICE ADVENTURERS TO THEIR FATE.

I CONSIDER IT AN EXCELLENT PLOY.

AND PERFECT FER A PROMOTION TEST AT THAT.

WHADDAYA SAY, BEARD-CUTTER?

THINK IT'S TIME TO PUSH OUR FLEDGLIN' OUTTA THE NEST?

NOW THAT I THINK ABOUT IT, I'VE BARELY GONE ON ANY ADVENTURES WITHOUT HIM, NOT COUNTING THAT VERY FIRST TIME...

CAN I REALLY DO THIS?

NOT THAT I'LL BE ALONE...

...AND MAYBE IT'S GREEDY OF ME TO WISH FOR ANYTHING MORE THAN THAT...

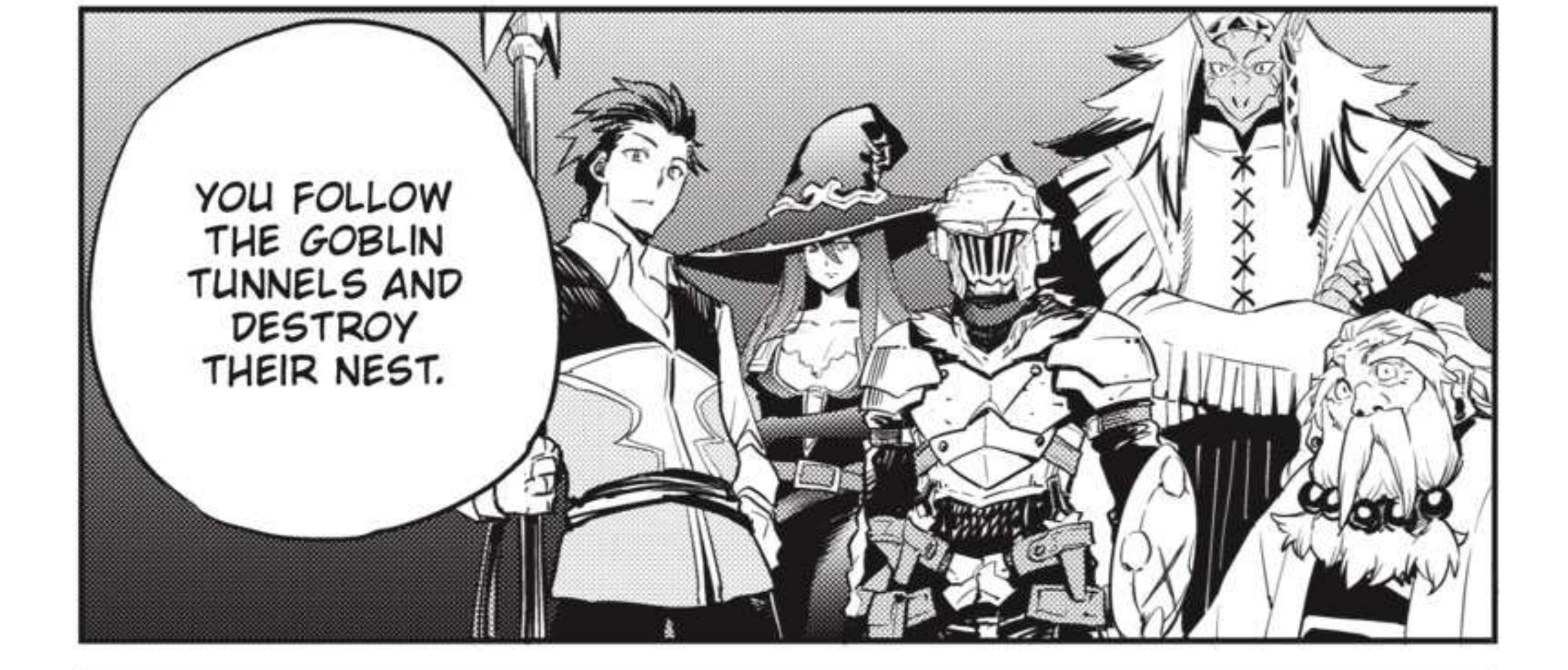
EVERYONE ELSE SAID THEY THOUGHT I AM...

...BUT AM I STRONG ENOUGH TO FIGHT GOBLINS WITHOUT HIM?

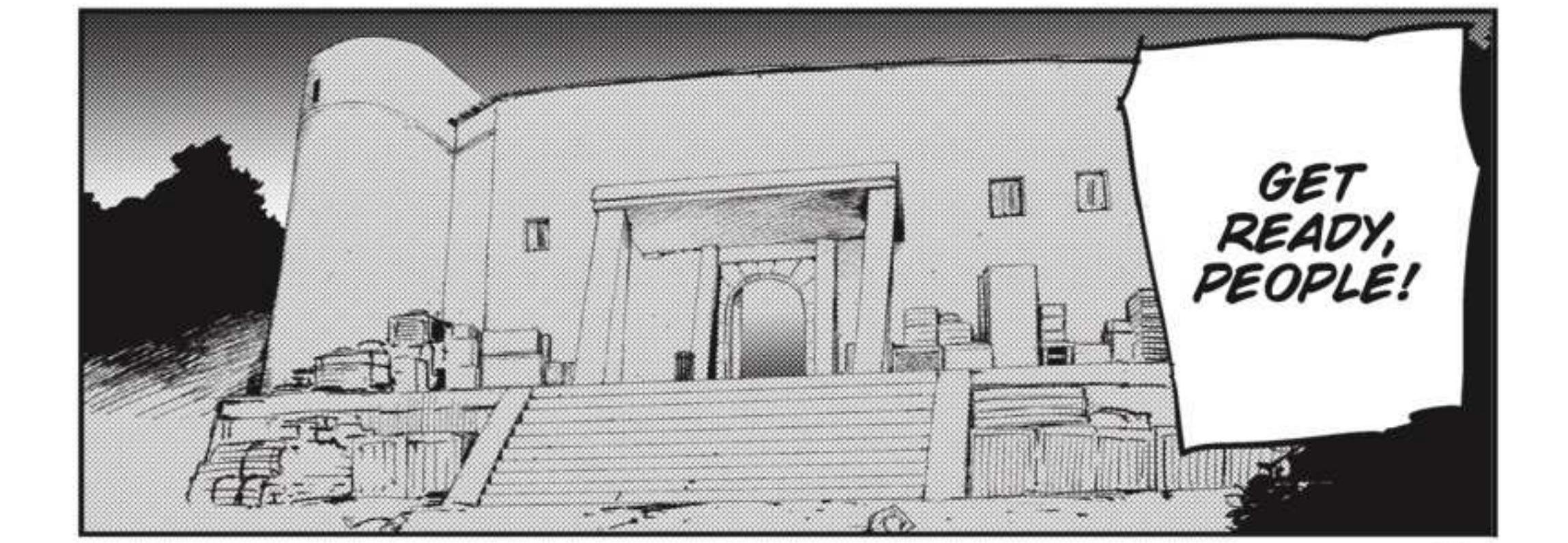
...BUT IF THIS PERSON SAYS I'M NOT...
...THAT'S WHAT WOULD BE BEST FOR EVERYONE.
BECAUSE I'M SURE...
...THEN I'LL BACK DOWN AND QUIETLY ACCEPT THAT.
CAN YOU DO IT?

I SEE. THEN IT'S SETTLED.
OKAY. WE MOVE AS SOON AS THE ELF GETS BACK WITH THE SURVIVORS.
I... CAN...
I WILL DO IT!

I'LL DEFEND OUR POSITION HERE.


YOU FOLLOW THE GOBLIN TUNNELS AND DESTROY THEIR NEST.

AND YOU RESCUE THE ROOKIES.


GET READY, PEOPLE!

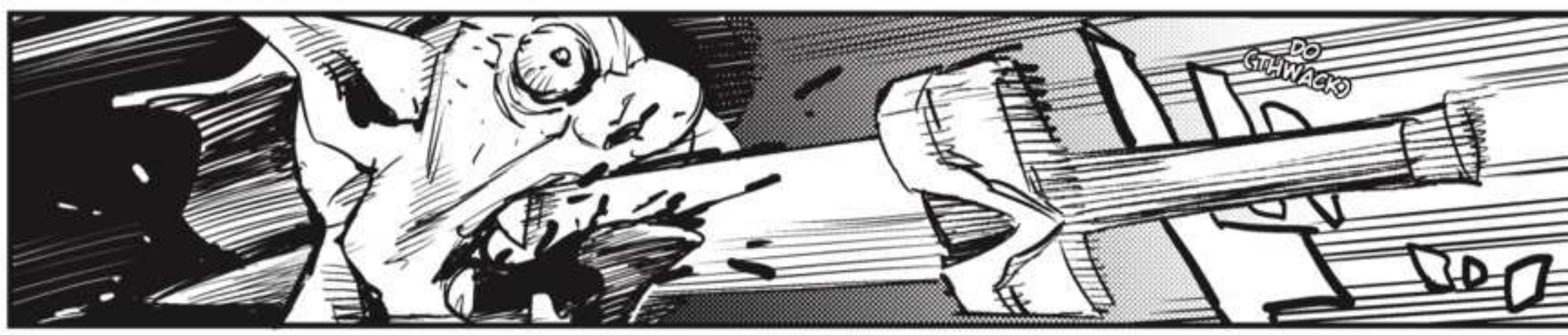
CHAPTER 72
HYU (WHOOSH)
TAKE THIS!!
GA (WHACK)

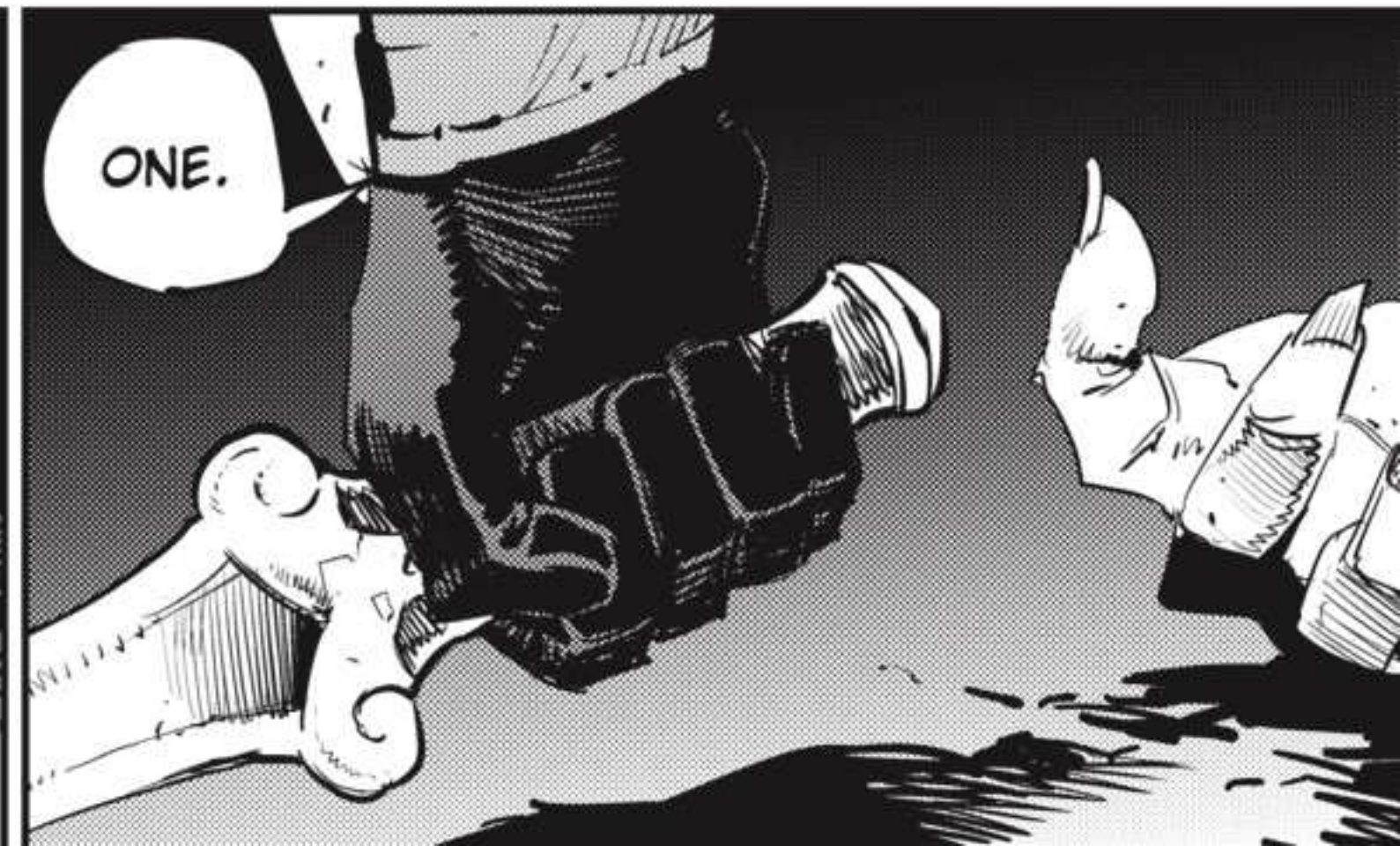
BI (FWIP)
SCRATCH THAT.
IT'S THREE NOW.

SIX MORE WAY BACK THERE.

NO WAY YOU'RE GETTIN' PAST ME!

KA (THOCK)
KA


DO (THWACK)


ONE.

TWO.

TO (SHNK)

SAKU (CHOP)

LISTEN, YOU...

THAT'S THREE.

...THE TIME, DON'T...

...WE?

WE EACH HAVE...

...ONLY ONE WARRIOR... MOST OF...

HONESTLY, YOU...

...AREN'T YOU WORRIED ABOUT HER?
IF WORRYING WOULD HELP HER IN ANY WAY, THEN I WOULD.

DIRECTION AND NUMBER?
!!
CAN'T TELL... THERE'S TOO MANY ECHOES TO PINPOINT THEM...!
MORE COMING.

WE JUST GOTTA STOP 'EM FROM GETTING UP TOP AT ALL COSTS!
GUESS WE'LL FIND OUT WHEN THEY GET HERE!

BIN (SHING)

THERE HAS NEVER BEEN A GOBLIN HUNT UNACCOMPANIED BY DANGER AND HARDSHIP.

GUESS WE'VE GOT NO CHOICE... SHALL WE?

VERY...

...TRUE.

...SINUS...

...OFFERO.

SAGITTA...

THEY'RE COMING!

HERE THEY COME...

THROUGH BOTH WALLS!

DEFLECT MISSILE.

FLOO (FWOOM)

DRINK DEEP, SING LOUD, LET THE SPIRITS LEAD YOU!

SING LOUD, STEP QUICK, AND WHEN TO SLEEP THEY SEE YOU...

...MAY A JAR OF FIRE WINE BE IN YOUR DREAMS TO GREET YOU!

YAAAWN...

BOGOOO (CRASH)

EVERY-BODY BACK!!

DO (THUD)

STUPOR!

DO (STOMP)

GUSHA (SPLAT)

DO

DO

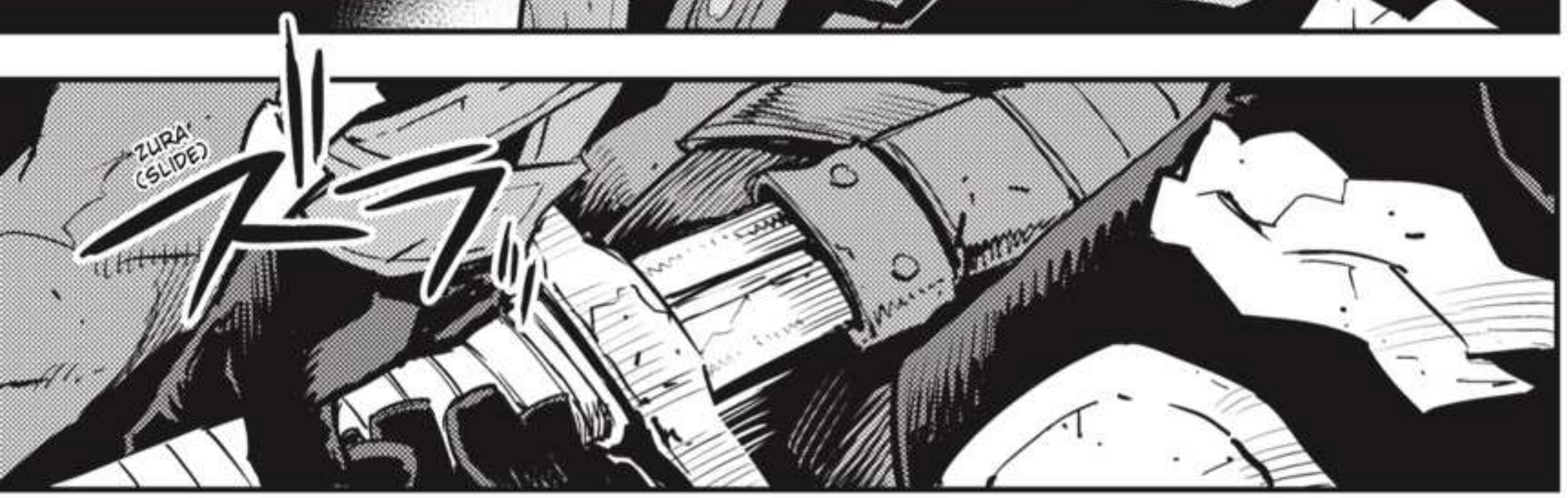
DO

DO

FOOLS.

GO (WHACK)

BIKI (SHATTER)


ZURA (SLIDE)

SENDING ONE YOUR WAY.
HYU (FWOO)
KUN (BAT)

GA (THWACK)

BI (SHING)

BOKIN (CRUNCH)

BUKIN (CRUSH)

COULD YOU STOP GIVING ME MORE WORK!?

BA (SLICE)

BA

BA

DO (SHOOM)

DO

HOW DO YA LIKE THAT...!?

I NEVER INTENDED TO.

DON'T LET EVEN ONE GET THROUGH!

PO
(GLOW)

MAGIC
ARROW!
BAO
(FWOOSH)

THEY'VE GOT A SHAMAN !!

...REMORA...
...RESTRIN-GUITUR! AN END TO MAGIC!
MAGNA...
YOU'RE UP!

PA (THWAP)

PA

COUNTER-SPELL!

PA

PA

PASHUU (FSHHH)

IF IT THINKS IT CAN OUTSHOOT ME, IT'S GOT ANOTHER THING COMING!

チ!! CHIRI (BZZT)

チ!! CHIRI

THAT'S YOUR WHOLE DAMN JOB!

...MORE WORK?

WOULD YOU KINDLY...STOP GIVING ME...

GATA
ガタ
GATA
(CLONK)
ガタ

DO
(THOCK)

GABU
(GLUG)
ガバ

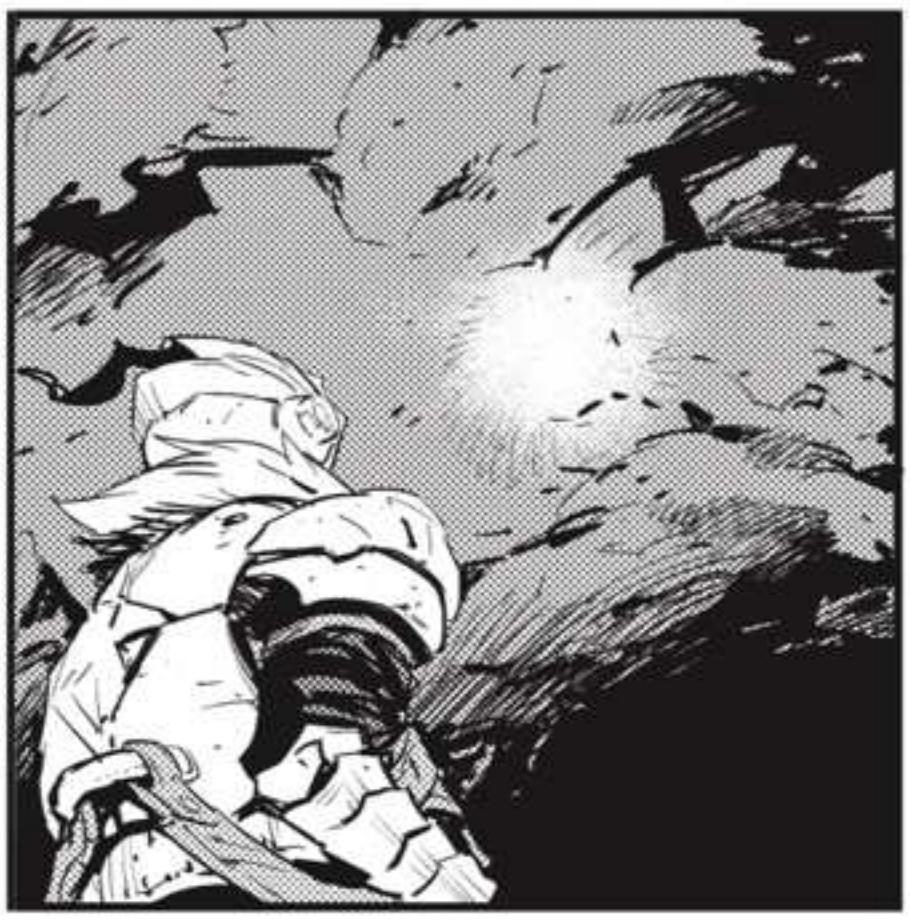
GOTCHA!

ANY INJURIES !?

GASHAA (CRASH)

NO PROBLEMS HERE.

DO

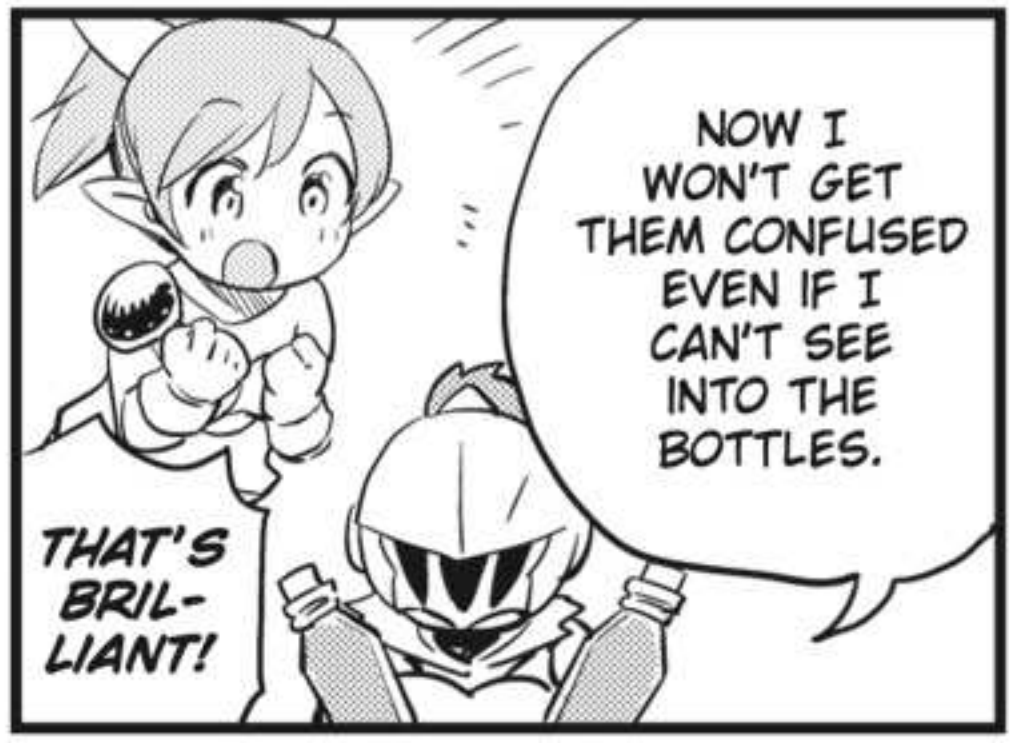


GOBLIN SLAYER 13 THE END

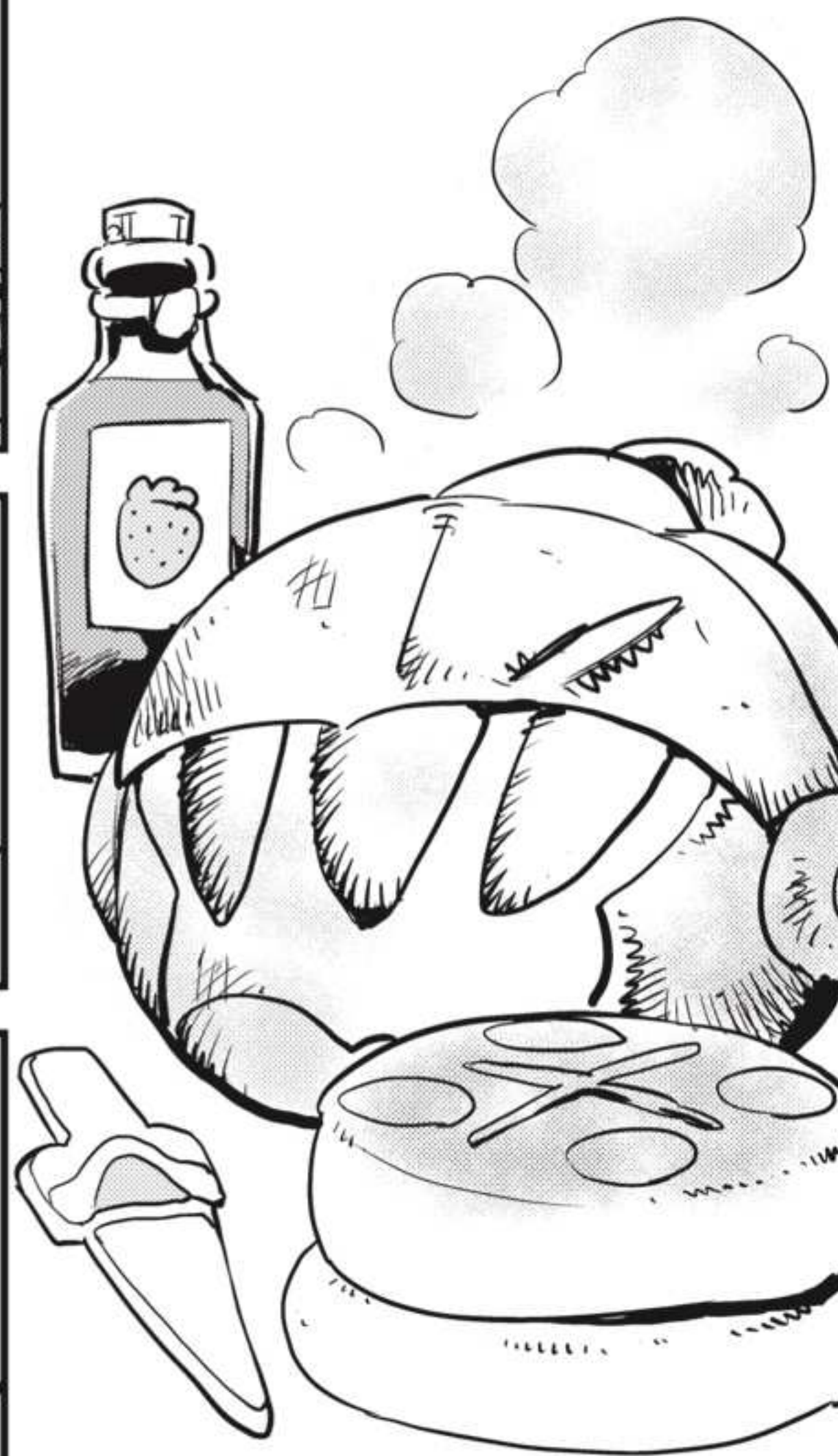
Turn to the back of the book for a short story by Kumo Kagyu!

GOBLIN SLAYER

LIFE HACKS



SWEET & DELICIOUS GOBSLAY-SAN



A MAN'S DREAM

OHK

Goblin Slayer's help on an adventure that involved climbing a tower.

He didn't actually do any scout work on that quest...

And climbing? They'd scaled the outside walls. Sure, you could trust to strength, but gods! He was no ancient, powerful emperor.

"Y'know, in the story of that one king, the scout's an archer."

"Don't be narrow-minded." Heavy Warrior chuckled. "There's stories about knife-wielding assassins disguised as jesters, too."

"Are there?" Spearman waved the idea away. It sounded like a long story. Maybe he could hear it over a drink at the Ax. "All right, it's settled. I'll talk to our guy and let you know."

"Sounds good. You do that." Heavy Warrior laughed. Spearman was feeling pretty good himself.

Adventurers have to watch out for each other, huh? Satisfied that he'd played his part appropriately, Heavy Warrior nodded gravely. "All right. I'm in."

He was just giving me the runaround, Spearman thought with a withering look at the other adventurer, but Heavy Warrior didn't appear to care. He leaned one beefy arm on the table, causing a creak of protest from the furniture, and said calmly, "So. A change of scenery. Got any idea where to go?"

"Given who we're bringing along, can't be anywhere with any, y'know, sketchy diversions."

The girls—well, the trio weren't exactly beholden to them, but they wouldn't want to worry them unnecessarily.

Spearman, with an authority born of confidence in his ideals, declared, "How about The Dear Friend's Ax?"

"Don't know it. What's it like?"

"It has a storied history—they say the owner's ax was stolen, and a certain brave warrior got it back for him..." Having announced this loudly, Spearman dropped his voice and added, "And the waitresses are all lookers."

"Oh-ho."

"They've got a centaur gal working there. People love her."

"Oh-ho!" Heavy Warrior nodded even more gravely than before.

Spearman frowned as if in response. To any onlookers, they would appear the very picture of experienced adventurers preparing to tackle a difficult quest.

"Not a bad idea," said Heavy Warrior.

"I thought you'd like it. And the food's not half bad."

"Guess I'll trust my scout, then."

"Hey, hey, smoking out enemies isn't *my* job."

That was what their goblin hunter was for.

Spearman thought back on the time they'd enlisted

myself? Not my favorite idea." Spearman waved his hands in an exaggerated *no, no* gesture and said, "It'd just be a few guys hanging out, enjoying some drinks and a meal. Nothing wrong with that, right?"

"Hmm..." Heavy Warrior crossed his arms and pretended to look very solemn, but he wasn't actually opposed to the idea. He just didn't think it would be in character for him to immediately respond, "Sure, I'm in!"

Maybe I shouldn't stall too much, either.

He didn't know Goblin Slayer's situation or Spearman's. Scrounging up info on another party would be an urban adventure, and he wasn't much for that sort of thing.

Nonetheless, he thought he could take a pretty good guess. Goblin Slayer, whether he fully realized it or not, had gradually assumed leadership of his party. And Spearman? He was good at taking care of people; he had begun training the new generation at the training center that they were building.

Both men shared a certain closeness with Heavy Warrior. And he understood how worn out they must be feeling. Doing work you weren't used to was tiring. It took a toll on the body. He remembered it in his bones. And even if there was no physical cost, it was a mental and emotional gauntlet. You could turn high-strung, constantly on edge. It wore away at your mental resources.

For an adventurer—especially a party leader—that could be critical.

Interlude:

Of the Tavern

– by Kumo Kagyu

"Let's go drinking sometime."

"Huh?" Heavy Warrior twisted up his face. "We're drinking right now, aren't we?"

It was an afternoon at the tavern in the Adventurers Guild. Here, it wasn't uncommon for otherwise completely unconnected parties to sit right near one another.

All adventurers, however, felt a certain kinship simply by dint of being adventurers, whether they talked much or not. A person who didn't value that connection wouldn't live long—there were exceptions, but they only proved the rule.

An unusual, taciturn man who hunted goblins day after day was having a meal there, but no one worried about him. There were a few frowns at his filthy armor, but it was what it was.

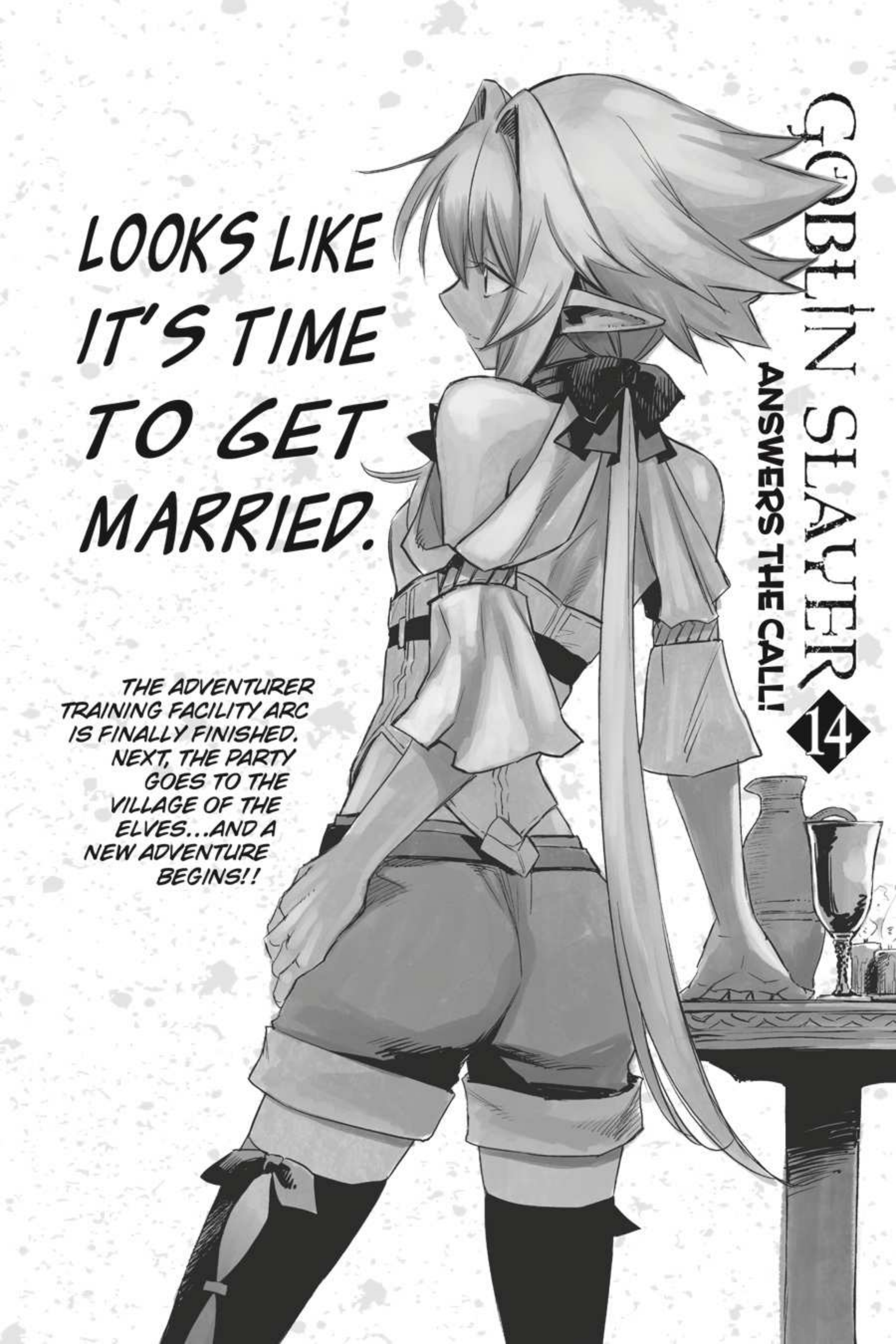
"Not *here*. Let's get a change of scenery—go out at night!"

Why should he stick his neck out for that weirdo? Spearman couldn't help but wonder as he took a mouthful of bread and chased it with some ale. It was more likely to be safe than plain water, and it could fill your stomach. If a bit of ale was all it took to get you drunk, you weren't cut out for adventuring.

"We invite Goblin Slayer, too," Spearman said. "The three of us. Whaddaya say?"

"If you've got something to talk about with him, no need to drag me into it."

"You want me to sit down and drink with him all by


GOBLIN SLAYER
ANSWERS THE CALL!
14
LOOKS LIKE IT'S TIME TO GET MARRIED.
THE ADVENTURER TRAINING FACILITY ARC IS FINALLY FINISHED. NEXT, THE PARTY GOES TO THE VILLAGE OF THE ELVES...AND A NEW ADVENTURE BEGINS!!

GOBLIN SLAYER

GOBLIN SLAYER 13

Original Story: Kumo Kagyu
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